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Somerset Record Society.

VOL. XXXIV.



QUARTER SESSIONS RECORDS

FOR THE

COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

VOL. IV.

CHARLES II.

1666-1677.

Great Britain. Court of quarter sessions of the peace (Somerset County)

PRINTED FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

1919.

LONDON

HARRISON AND SONS, LTD., PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

Blackwell - \$1.15

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PREFACE.

THE present volume deals only with the records of the administrative business transacted at Quarter Sessions for the county of Somerset between January, 1666, and April, 1677. No Minute Book for the earlier years of the reign of Charles II is known to exist.

In order to economise space, the original wording of the minutes has in many cases been considerably curtailed, but nothing material has been omitted. For the like reason, a copious Index of Subjects has been substituted for an Introduction repeating some of the facts given in the text.

On the other hand, a new feature appears in this volume in the shape of a list of the Justices of the Peace for the county appointed in the whole course of the reign of Charles II.

While the Minute Books record the attendance of individual Justices at successive Quarter Sessions, they do not give any list of those who might have attended if so minded. For the compilation of such a list there are, at different periods, four sources of information :—

(1) Enrolments in Chancery of Letters Patent appointing the Justices of the Peace in the several counties. Names and dates will be found in the printed volumes of the *Calendar of Patent Rolls* prepared at the Public Record Office. The

practice of enrolling these Commissions, however, became very irregular in the early part of the reign of Elizabeth, and it was altogether discontinued soon after the Restoration.

(2) Original Letters Patent, preserved in the office of the Clerk of the Peace. For the reign of Charles II there are at Taunton thirty of these instruments, ranging in date from the 6th of March, 1661, to the 17th of July, 1684. There should be fifty-eight. The series is thus very defective, a gap between 1664 and 1672 being specially noticeable. One of the surviving Commissions is, moreover, in duplicate. Several of them are in bad condition, and many are without any fragment of the Great Seal by which they were originally authenticated. In this connexion, it may be observed that, while the Commissions of 17th December, 1672, and 20th May, 1675, bear good, though broken, impressions of the whole Great Seal, others seem to have been issued under part only of the Great Seal impressed on a lump of wax in a very slovenly manner.

The Letters Patent are addressed collectively to the persons thereby appointed as Justices, their names being given more or less in order of precedence. Certain great officers of state, such as the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Privy Seal, the Great Chamberlain, the Chamberlain of the Household, and the Steward of the Household, usually head the list in all counties alike. Justices of Assize also figure in the Commissions for the counties to be visited by them. A shorter list in every Commission specifies those Justices of whom (*quorum*) one at least must be present for the transaction of business. A fresh Commission, enumerating all the Justices, had to be issued whenever a single new person was to be included, or a single living person omitted.

(3) *Libri Pacis*, kept for the purpose of showing the names of the Justices of the Peace in the different counties at any given time. There are three such books for the reign of Charles II, all undated. Starting from a Commission issued soon after the Restoration, the earliest of them gives the names in due sequence, but with regular spaces left between them, so as to allow of insertions and alterations. It was apparently the duty of somebody at the Crown Office in Chancery to keep it duly posted up, but the alterations are not dated. When the book had served its purpose for a few years, it was superseded by a new one similarly prepared.

(4) The Docquet Books of the Crown Office, which give the dates of all Commissions issued thence, with notes of some of the changes made since the previous occasion.

The following list is based upon the original Commissions at Taunton, supplemented by such information as can be extracted from the *Libri Pacis* and the Docquet Books, the former unsatisfactory with regard to dates, and the latter unsatisfactory with regard to names. Owing to the incomplete nature of the Docquet Books, on which reliance has had to be placed during the long gap in the series of original Commissions from 1664-1672, it cannot be claimed that the dates given in the list are in all cases accurate. In particular, it is practically certain that several of the changes noted as having occurred on 12th February, 1672 (the date of the original Commission immediately succeeding the gap), occurred before that date. The addition of [*q.*] to a Justice's name indicates that at some time during his career as a Justice he was of the Quorum.

LIST OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR SOMERSET,
1660-1685.

Arthur [Annesley], Earl of Anglesey, Keeper of the Privy Seal ;
31 July, 1673 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]

John Archer, serjeant-at-law ; 7 July, 1662 ; omitted 6 March,
1663 ; styled Justice of the Bench, 22 July, 1663 ; omitted 12
February, 1672. [q.]

John Ashburnham, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February,
1672. [q.]

John Ashford, of Ashford, Esq. ; 22 July, 1682, and onwards.
[q.]

Edward Atkyns, Knt., Baron of the Exchequer ; 17 July, 1684,
and onwards. [q.]

William Bacon, the elder, Esq. ; 6 March, 1661 ; omitted 6 March,
1662.

Edward Bampfild, Esq. ; 11 March, 1671 ; omitted 31 July, 1673.
[q.]

John Bampfild, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662.

Warwick Bampfild, Esq. ; 11 December, 1661 ; omitted 28 July,
1681. [q.]

John Bassett, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662. [q.]

William Bassett, Knt. ; 6 March, 1662, and onwards. [q.]

Ralph Bathurst, D.D., Dean of Wells ; 26 July, 1670, and onwards.
[q.]

John Bayly, LL.B. ; 20 May, 1675, and onwards. [q.]

Thomas Baynard, of Westrowe, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 26
July, 1670.

Thomas [Belaysye], Viscount Fauconberg ; 26 February, 1680, and
onwards. [q.]

Henry [Bennet], Earl of Arlington, Chamberlain of the Household ;
28 November, 1674, and onwards. [q.]

- Charles Berkeley, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Controller of the Household, 1 December, 1660¹ ; styled Treasurer of the Household, 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Edward Berkeley, of Pill, Esq. (1) ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Edward Berkeley, of Pill, Esq. (2) ; 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Henry Berkeley, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Maurice Berkeley, Knt. and Bart. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Viscount Fitzharding, 12 February, 1672, and onwards.² [q.]
- Montagu [Bertie], Earl of Lindsey, Great Chamberlain ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Robert [Bertie], Earl of Lindsey, Great Chamberlain ; 12 February, 1672, and onwards. [q.]
- Vere Bertie, Baron of the Exchequer ; 5 July, 1675 ; omitted 28 February, 1676. [q.]
- John Blewett, of Holcombe, Esq. ; 28 July, 1681, and onwards. [q.]
- Roger Bourne, Esq. ; 14 December, 1666 ; omitted 23 October, 1672. [q.]
- Roger [Boyle], Lord Broghill ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Earl of Orrery, 18 July, 1664 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- Orlando Bridgeman, Knt., Keeper of the Great Seal ; 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 17 December, 1672. [q.]
- Harry Bridges, of Keynsham ; 26 July, 1670, and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas Bridges, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas [Bruce], Lord Bruce ; 9 March, 1682, and onwards. [q.]
- John Buckland, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 August, 1680. [q.]
- Henry Bull, Esq. ; 12 February, 1676, and onwards. [q.]

¹ Styled Custos Rotulorum in the Crown Office Docket Book on this date.

² Appointed Custos Rotulorum on 20 May, 1675.

Henry Bull, of Midsomer Norton, Esq.; 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]

William Bull, Esq.; 20 July, 1660; omitted 12 August, 1680. [q.]

James [Butler], Duke of Ormonde, Steward of the Household; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]

James Cade, Esq.; 17 July, 1684, and onwards. [q.]

Arthur [Capell], Lord Capell; 20 July, 1660; styled Earl of Essex, 6 March, 1662; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]

John Carew, Esq.; 13 June, 1676, and onwards. [q.]

Robert Carr, Knt. and Bart., Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; 23 October, 1672; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]

Edward Cartwright, Knt.; 28 July, 1681; omitted 20 July, 1683. [q.]

John Cary, Esq.; 20 July, 1660; omitted 12 February, 1672.

Henry [Cavendish], Duke of Newcastle; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]

James [Cecil], Earl of Salisbury; 26 February, 1680; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]

Job Charlton, Knt., Justice of the Bench; 20 July, 1683; omitted 17 July, 1684. [q.]

Thomas Chichley, Knt.; 26 February, 1680; styled Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 20 July, 1683, and onwards. [q.]

John Churchill, Esq.; 20 July, 1660; styled Knt. 12 February, 1672; styled K.C. 28 November, 1674, and onwards. [q.]

Edward Clarke, Esq.; 19 December, 1660; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]

Edward Clarke, the younger, Esq.; 21 October, 1676; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]

George Clarke, of Swainswick, Esq.; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]

William Clarke, Esq.; 26 July, 1670; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]

Thomas [Clifford], Lord Clifford, Lord Treasurer; 17 December, 1672; omitted 31 July, 1673. [q.]

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- Henry [Compton], Bishop of London ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Edward [Conway], Earl of Conway, Secretary ; 28 July, 1681 ; omitted 17 July, 1684. [q.]
- Anthony Ashley [Cooper], Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Chancellor ; 17 December, 1672 ; omitted 3 August, 1674. [q.]
- Edward Court, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 20 July, 1683.
- Henry Coventry, Esq., Secretary ; 26 February, 1680 ; title of Secretary omitted 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- John Coventry, K.B. ; 30 June, 1668 ; omitted 26 July, 1670.
- Robert [Creighton], Bishop of Bath and Wells ; 5 August, 1670 ; omitted 17 December, 1672. [q.]
- Richard Crosse, Esq. ; 17 December, 1672, and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas Currey, Esq. ; 6 March, 1661 ; omitted 18 July, 1664.
- Richard Davage, Esq. ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Henry Deane, LL.D. ; 3 December, 1668 ; omitted 27 February, 1673. [q.]
- John [Digby], Lord Digby ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Earl of Bristol, 3 May, 1679, and onwards. [q.]
- William Dolben, Knt., Justice of the King's Bench ; 9 March, 1682 ; omitted 22 July, 1682 ; re-inserted 17 February, 1683 ; omitted 20 July, 1683. [q.]
- Thomas Earle, of Bradenbrooke, Esq. ; 28 July, 1681, and onwards. [q.]
- John [Egerton], Earl of Bridgewater ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- John Ernle, Chancellor and Sub-Treasurer of the Exchequer ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- John Every, Esq. ; 25 February, 1678 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- William Fane, D.D. ; 23 October, 1672 ; omitted 3 August, 1674. [q.]
- Thomas Farewell, Esq. ; 28 July, 1681, and onwards.

- Daniel Finch, Esq. ; 12 August, 1680 ; styled Lord Finch, 28 July, 1681 ; styled Earl of Nottingham, 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- Heneage Finch, Esq., Solicitor-General ; 3 May, 1679, and onwards. [q.]
- Heneage [Finch], Lord Finch, Keeper of the Great Seal ; 3 August, 1674 ; styled Lord Chancellor, 28 February, 1676 ; styled Earl of Nottingham, 28 July, 1681 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- John Fitzjames, Esq. ; 20 July, 1666 ; styled Knt. 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Robert Foster, Knt., Justice of the Bench ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Chief Justice of the King's Bench, 6 March, 1661 ; omitted 18 July, 1664. [q.]
- Thomas Fownes, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Sidney Godolphin, Esq. ; 12 August, 1680 ; styled Secretary, 17 July, 1684 ; and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas Gore, Knt. ; 6 March, 1663 ; omitted 13 June, 1676. [q.]
- Edward Gorges, of Charlton, Esq. ; 26 July, 1670, and onwards. [q.]
- Samuel Gorges, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- John [Granville], Earl of Bath ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Ferrers Greisly, Esq. ; 22 July, 1682, and onwards.
- Angel Grey, Esq. ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Matthew Hale, Knt., Chief Baron of the Exchequer ; 18 July, 1664 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- John Hall, Esq. ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 17 January, 1666 ; re-inserted 11 April, 1666 ; omitted 26 February, 1680.
- John Harrington, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards.
- Francis [Hawley], Lord Hawley ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]

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- Robert Hawley, Esq. ; 11 September, 1660 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- James Hayes, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662, but re-inserted the same day ; styled Knt. 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 26 February, 1680.
- William Helliard, of Coker, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]
- John Hippsley, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Thomas Holt, D.D. ; 4 July, 1665 ; omitted 17 January, 1666 ; re-inserted 26 July, 1670, and onwards. [q.]
- George Horner, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 August, 1680. [q.]
- George Horner, Esq. ; 6 December, 1675 ; and onwards. [q.]
- Henry [Howard], Earl of Norwich, Earl Marshal ; 27 February, 1673 ; omitted 31 July, 1673. [q.]
- Henry [Howard], Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal ; 17 July, 1684, and onwards. [q.]
- Edward Hungerford, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled K.B. 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- John Hunt, Esq. ; 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Robert Hunt, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 August, 1680. [q.]
- Robert Hunt, the younger, Esq. ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 12 August, 1680.
- George Hussey, Esq. ; 30 June, 1668 ; omitted 26 July, 1670.
- Edward Hyde, Knt., Lord Chancellor ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Lord Hyde, 6 March, 1661 ; styled Earl of Clarendon, 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Laurence Hyde, Esq. ; 26 February, 1680 ; styled Viscount Hyde, 28 July, 1681 ; styled Earl of Rochester, 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- George Jeffreys, Knt. and Bart., Chief Justice of the King's Bench ; 17 July, 1684, and onwards. [q.]

- Leoline Jenkins, Esq., Secretary ; 12 August, 1680 ; title of Secretary omitted 12 July, 1684, and onwards. [q.]
- Henry [Jermyn], Earl of St. Albans, Chamberlain of the Household ; 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 28 February, 1674. [q.]
- Thomas Jones, Knt., Justice of the King's Bench ; 3 May, 1679 ; omitted 9 March, 1682. [q.]
- William Jones, Knt., Attorney General ; 20 May, 1675 ; omitted 18 December, 1679. [q.]
- John Kelyng, Knt., Justice of Assize ; 24 June, 1665 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- William Lacy, Esq. ; 6 March, 1661 ; omitted 26 July, 1670 ; re-inserted 20 August, 1670, and onwards. [q.]
- Joseph Langton, Esq. ; 12 February, 1672, and onwards. [q.]
- Cresswell Levinz, Knt., Attorney General ; 12 August, 1680 ; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]
- Timothy Littleton, Knt., Baron of the Exchequer ; 13 June, 1676 ; omitted 3 May, 1679. [q.]
- Kingsmill Lucy, of Castle Cary, Esq. ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- Francis Luttrell, Esq. (1) ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- Francis Luttrell, of Dunster, Esq. (2) ; 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Henry Lyte, Esq. (1) ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 2 May, 1663.
- Henry Lyte, Esq. (2) ; 17 February, 1683, and onwards.
- John [Maitland], Duke of Lauderdale ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- John Malet, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Knt. 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- Michael Malet, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 26 July, 1670.
- Thomas Malet, Knt., Justice of the King's Bench ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Benjamin Mason, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662. [q.]

John Maynard, serjeant-at-law ; 18 July, 1664, and onwards.
[*q.*]

John Merefeild, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled serjeant-at-law,
6 March, 1661 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [*q.*]

Peter [Mew], Bishop of Bath and Wells ; 20 May, 1675, and onwards.
[*q.*]

Christopher [Monck], Duke of Albemarle ; 26 February, 1680, and
onwards. [*q.*]

George [Monck], Duke of Albemarle, General ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted
12 February, 1672. [*q.*]

Edward [Montagu], Earl of Manchester, Chamberlain of the House-
hold ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [*q.*]

William Montagu, Chief Baron of the Exchequer ; 17 February,
1683 ; omitted 20 July, 1683. [*q.*]

Richard Morgan, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.

Richard Morgan, the younger, of St. George's, Esq. ; 26 July, 1670,
and onwards. [*q.*]

Edward Nevill, Esq. ; 3 August, 1674, and onwards. [*q.*]

Edward Nevill, Knt. ; 20 July, 1683, and onwards. [*q.*]

Henry Nevill, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 18 July, 1664.

Roger Newborough, Esq. ; 11 December, 1661 ; omitted 2 May,
1663.

Richard Newman, of Evercreech, Esq. ; 18 December, 1679 ;
omitted 28 July, 1681. [*q.*]

Francis North, Knt., Chief Justice of the Bench ; 25 February, 1675 ;
omitted 13 June, 1676 ; re-inserted 3 May, 1679 ; styled Lord
Keeper, 17 February, 1683 ; styled Lord Guildford, 17 July,
1684, and onwards. [*q.*]

George Norton, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
[*q.*]

Thomas [Osborne], Viscount Osborne, Lord Treasurer ; 31 July,
1673 ; styled Earl of Danby, 3 August, 1674 ; omitted 3 May,
1679. [*q.*]

Nathaniel Palmer, Esq. ; 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [*q.*]

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- Peregrine Palmer, Esq. ; 12 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas Palmer, of Fairfield, Esq. ; 12 August, 1680 ; omitted
17 February, 1683. [q.]
- Charles [Paulet], Marquis of Winchester ; 26 February, 1680, and
onwards. [q.]
- Joscelin [Percy], Earl of Northumberland ; 16 April, 1669 ; omitted
12 February, 1672.
- Edward Phelipps, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 20 July, 1683.
[q.]
- Edward Phelipps, the younger, Esq. ; 6 March, 1662 ; styled
Knt. 12 February, 1672, and onwards. [q.]
- Edmund Pierce, Knt., Master of Chancery ; 18 July, 1664 ; omitted
12 February, 1672. [q.]
- William [Pierce], Bishop of Bath and Wells ; 4 July, 1665 ; omitted
12 February, 1672.
- John Pigott, Esq. ; 25 February, 1678, and onwards. [q.]
- Thomas Pigott, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 20 May, 1675. [q.]
- Alexander Popham, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February,
1672. [q.]
- William Portman, Bart. ; 30 June, 1668, and onwards. [q.]
- Amias Poulett (Paulett, Powlett), Esq. ; 30 June, 1668 ; omitted
12 February, 1672.
- Anthony Poulett, of Preston, Esq. ; 26 July, 1670 ; omitted
20 May, 1675.
- Francis Poulett, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]
- John [Poulett], Lord Poulett ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February,
1672. [q.]
- John Poulett, Esq. ; 22 July, 1663 ; styled Lord Poulett, 12 February,
1672 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- William Prin, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
[q.]
- James Prowse, Esq. ; 7 April, 1665 ; omitted 27 February, 1673.
[q.]
- John Prowse, Esq. ; 27 February, 1673, and onwards. [q.]

- Thomas Raymond, Justice of the King's Bench ; 22 July, 1682 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- Richard Raynsford, Judge of Assize ; 11 March, 1671 ; styled Knt., Justice of the King's Bench, 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 3 August, 1674 ; re-inserted 25 February, 1675 ; omitted 5 July, 1675 ; re-inserted 28 February, 1676 ; styled Chief Justice, 13 June, 1676 ; omitted 3 May, 1679. [q.]
- John [Robartes], Lord Robartes, Keeper of the Privy Seal ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672 ; re-inserted as Earl of Radnor and President of the Council, 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- Henry Rogers, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 17 December, 1672. [q.]
- Francis Rolle, Esq. ; 11 September, 1660 ; styled Knt. 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 12 August, 1680. [q.]
- Peter Roynon, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards.
- Prince Rupert, Count Palatine of the Rhine, etc. ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- John Rydout, Esq. ; 7 April, 1665 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
- William [Sancroft], Archbishop of Canterbury ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- John Sandford, of Ninehead, Esq. ; 12 August, 1680, and onwards. [q.]
- George [Saville], Earl of Halifax ; 26 February, 1680 ; styled Keeper of the Privy Seal, 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- Robert Sawyer, Knt., Attorney-General ; 28 July, 1681, and onwards. [q.]
- James [Scott], Duke of Monmouth, Master of the Horse ; 3 August, 1674 ; title of M. H. omitted 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]
- John Sellock, D.D. ; 4 July, 1665 ; omitted 17 January, 1666.
- Edward Seymour, Esq. ; 27 February, 1668 ; omitted 26 July, 1670 ; re-inserted 12 February, 1672, and onwards. [q.]

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- John [Seymour], Duke of Somerset ; 17 December, 1672¹ ; omitted 20 May, 1675. [q.]
- William [Seymour], Marquis of Hertford ; 20 July, 1660¹ ; styled Duke of Somerset, 11 September, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1661. [q.]
- Hugh Smyth, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Knt. and Bart. 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 17 February, 1683. [q.]
- John Smyth, Knt. ; 12 August, 1680 ; styled Bart. 27 July, 1681, and onwards. [q.]
- Charles [Somerset], Lord Herbert ; 22 July, 1682 ; styled Earl of Worcester, 20 July, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- Henry [Somerset], Marquis of Worcester ; 12 February, 1672¹ ; styled President of the Council of Wales, 23 October, 1672 ; omitted 17 December, 1672 ; re-inserted 27 February, 1673 ; omitted 31 July, 1673 ; re-inserted 26 February, 1680 ; styled Duke of Beaufort, 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- George Speke, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 2 May, 1663. [q.]
- John Speke, Esq. ; 3 May, 1679 ; omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- Robert [Spencer], Earl of Sunderland, Secretary ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 28 July, 1681 ; re-inserted 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- George Stawell (Stowell), Esq. ; 6 March, 1662 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- John Stawell, K.B. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662. [q.]
- John Stawell, Knt. ; 23 February, 1664 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Ralph Stawell, Esq. ; 12 February, 1672 ; styled Lord Stawell, 17 February, 1683, and onwards. [q.]
- John Strachey, Esq. ; 17 December, 1672 ; omitted 20 May, 1675. [q.]
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¹ Appointed Custos Rotulorum on this date.

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- Edward Strode, Esq. ; 6 March, 1661 ; omitted 6 March, 1662.
[q.]
- Edward Strode, of Downside, Esq. ; 27 February, 1673 ; omitted
28 July, 1681. [q.]
- William Strode, Esq. ; 28 November, 1674 ; omitted 26 February,
1680. [q.]
- Charles [Stuart], Duke of Richmond and Lennox ; 18 July, 1664 ;
omitted 23 October, 1672 ; re-inserted 17 December, 1672 ;
omitted 27 February, 1673. [q.]
- George Sydenham, of Dulverton, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted
12 February, 1672.
- John Symmes, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662.
[q.]
- William Symmes (Syms), Esq. ; 17 February, 1683, and onwards.
- William Temple, Bart. ; 26 February, 1680 ; omitted 28 July,
1681. [q.]
- James Thynn, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
[q.]
- Thomas [Thynn], Viscount Weymouth ; 17 July, 1684, and onwards.
[q.]
- John Trethewy, of Ditchet, Esq. ; 26 July, 1670 ; omitted
12 February, 1672.
- George Trevilian, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Bart. 6 March, 1662 ;
omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- John Turbervill, Esq. ; 11 September, 1660 ; omitted 12 August,
1680. [q.]
- Christopher Turnor, Knt., Baron of the Exchequer ; 3 August, 1674 ;
omitted 25 February, 1675. [q.]
- Stephen Tymewell, Esq. ; 6 October, 1684, and onwards.
- Haswell Tynte, Esq. ; 27 February, 1673 ; styled Bart., 3 August,
1674 ; omitted 17 February, 1683 ; re-inserted 17 July, 1684.
[q.]
- Hugh Tynte, of Wraxall, Esq. ; 26 July, 1670, and onwards.
[q.]

- John Tynte, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
[q.]
- Thomas Tyrrell, Knt., Justice of the Bench ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted
7 July, 1662 ; re-inserted 6 March, 1663 ; omitted 18 July,
1664. [q.]
- Francis Vaughan, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Master Extraordinary
of Chancery, 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 26 February, 1680.
[q.]
- John Vaughan, Knt., Chief Justice of the Bench ; 12 February,
1672 ; omitted 25 February, 1675. [q.]
- George [Villiers], Duke of Buckingham, Master of the Horse ;
12 February, 1672 ; title of M.H. omitted 3 August, 1674 ;
omitted 26 February, 1680. [q.]
- Henry Walrond, Esq. ; 18 July, 1664, and onwards. [q.]
- William Walrond, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 2 May, 1663.
[q.]
- Francis Warre (Warr), Bart. ; 28 July, 1681, and onwards. [q.]
- John Warre, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672.
[q.]
- Thomas Warre, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 18 July, 1664 ;
re-inserted 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 20 July, 1683. [q.]
- Thomas White, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; omitted 6 March, 1662.
- William Whitemore, Bart. ; 25 February, 1675 ; omitted
26 February, 1680. [q.]
- John [Wilmot], Earl of Rochester ; 26 July, 1670 ; omitted 12 August,
1680. [q.]
- Edward Wingfield, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Knt. 6 March, 1661 ;
omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Thomas [Wriothesley], Earl of Southampton, Lord Treasurer ;
20 July, 1660 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]
- Edmund Wyndham, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Marshal of the
Household, 12 February, 1672 ; omitted 28 July, 1681. [q.]
- Francis Wyndham, Esq. ; 20 July, 1660 ; styled Bart. 3 August,
1674 ; omitted 26 February, 1680.

Hugh Wyndham, Knt. ; 15 March, 1669 ; styled Baron of the Exchequer, 12 February, 1672 ; styled Justice of the Bench, 27 February, 1673, and onwards. [q.]

Thomas Wyndham, Esq. ; 28 February, 1676, and onwards. [q.]

Thomas Wyndham, Bart. ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]

Wadham Wyndham, Knt., Justice of the King's Bench ; 18 July, 1664 ; omitted 12 February, 1672. [q.]

William Wyndham, Knt. ; 20 July, 1660, and onwards. [q.]

John Wynne, Esq. ; 26 February, 1680, and onwards. [q.]

Francis Wythens, Knt., Justice of the King's Bench ; 20 July, 1683, and onwards. [q.]

During the period covered by this volume, the number of Justices attending Quarter Sessions in Somerset averaged thirteen. Those most often present were :—John Turbervill, Robert Hunt, Sir Edward Phelipps, William Helliard, Warwick Bampffield, Henry Walrond, Edward Court, Sir Hugh Smyth, and Thomas Warre.

The text of this volume has been prepared by Mr. M. C. B. Dawes, B.A., who has also compiled the Index. The Council of the Somerset Record Society have to thank the County Council for material assistance in its production, and Mr. G. I. Simey, Clerk of the Peace, for facilities with regard to the manuscripts upon which it is based.

SOMERSET

QUARTER SESSIONS RECORDS.

MINUTE BOOK, 1666-1676.

WELLS SESSION 9 January, 17 Charles II. [1666.]

1. Order to Thomas Daniell and Arthur Brooke, churchwardens of Brislington, to distrain certain persons in the said parish who have refused to pay their contributions towards the hospitals and maimed soldiers.

2. Order for payment by the treasurers of the hospitals to Mr. Nathaniel Bowden, minister of Stoake under Hambden, who has preached in the common gaol at Ivelchester ever since the death of Mr. Brayne, of 6*l.* yearly, the usual fee, with the arrears since Mr. Brayne's death.

3. Order that the House of Correction at Ivelchester, (which is to be re-opened after a discontinuance of some years), with the ancient ways into the same, be severed from the common gaol there by pales, doors and bounds, as formerly.

4. Declaration, on a dispute between the parishes of Northpetherton and Batcombe, that Philip Davis is an inhabitant of Northpetherton; and order that he and his three children be received there if and when they become chargeable at Batcombe.

5. Approval of an agreement between Francis White of Stoake Trister and the churchwardens and overseers of the parish that Francis shall have the care of Thomas Saywell, a destitute infant of 12, his kinsman, during minority, and shall be allowed his expenses out of a tenement worth 10*l.* yearly which will revert to Thomas on the death of his grandmother, Elizabeth Saywell.

6. Order, by consent of Mr. Hercules Whitinge, keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett, for payment by him of 40*s.* yearly for two years to the churchwardens and overseers of Clutton for the maintenance of a base child of Martha Challoner which is now chargeable on Clutton and was begotten in the said House of Correction, the reputed father being William Harvey.

7. Discharge of John Gullock from being tithingman of Copland, he having shewn that the office is customarily held for three years and that he has already left the tithing, his term of his tenement therein expiring at Candlemas next ; and order to the nearest justice to summon Thomas Balch to execute the office.

8. The Court desires the justice nearest to Horsington to send William Weare and his wife to a House of Correction for returning to Horsington in contempt of an order settling them at Marnehill, co. Dorset.

9. Order for confirmation of cottages built on the waste of Horsington, with the assent of the lord of the manor and others, by Ambrose Pickold, Nicholas Swetnam, Richard Penney, Robert Olliver, Nicholas Pollett, Sarah Willis, Roger Hannay, Richard Sergeant, Henry Stacy, John Lemon and John Younge, poor persons, unless cause to the contrary be shewn at the next Sessions.

10. Order, on a dispute between Weare and East Brent, for the settlement of Richard Dolinge at Weare.

11. The Court desires the justices to whom the business of Bathford, Bath Easton and Swainswick Bridges was first referred, and Sir William Bassett, Knt., and Mr. Roynont justices, to compel the treasurers and surveyors of the said bridges to pay the masons who were appointed to build them their arrears, and to require them to give an account of receipts and payments, in accordance with an order made at the last Bridgewater Sessions which they have hitherto disobeyed; and if they refuse, to certify the refusal at the next Sessions so that proceedings may be taken against them.

12. The Court desires the four justices nearest to the county bridges called S^t Thomas Pensford and Publow Bridges to take the statutory steps for their repair.

13. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 15*l.* to John Buckland, Esq., justice, for the repair of S^t Thomas Pensford and Woolward county bridges, 'several great issues having been forfeited by the inhabitants of the county' for non-repair thereof. The money is to be repaid out of the first moneys raised for repair of the said bridges.

14. Thomas Whitbourne of Croscombe, clerk, a non-conformist minister, came and took the oath in accordance with Stat. 17 Car. II. c. 2. Also John Musgrave of Thorne-falcon, Samuel Musgrave of Taunton S^t James and Edward Warre of Cheddon.

15. The Court desires the two justices nearest to the parishes of S^t John and S^t Benedict, Glaston, to give statutory relief in regard to a complaint that the inhabitants of those parishes, who pay a poor rate of 20*d.* in the pound, cannot pay any longer without assistance from neighbouring parishes.

16. Order that Edward Phillipps and Hugh Stagg, both of Pilton, poor aged persons who were maimed in the late king's service, be admitted and paid as pensioners on the next two vacancies.

17. Licence, on reading a petition from the churchwardens and overseers of Doultong and a grant by Sir George Horner, Knt., lord of the manor there, for Theophilus Cooke to build a cottage on the waste of the manor and hold it for life, its subsequent disposal being regulated by statute.

18. Order for payment of 30s. by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to — Shipway, under-keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett.

19. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Froome to settle a complaint by John Ridout, Esq., of Froome, that he is over-rated for the relief of the poor ; or else to report the state of the case at the next General Sessions.

20. Order, on a dispute between Mells and Beckington, for the settlement of Charles Scapen at Mells.

21. Order that William Hilman of Congersbury do repair to the nearest justice and take oath to execute the office of constable of the tithing of Congersbury ; Samuel Woodwall, the present constable, having complained that he has served for a year and more, as there was no Court Leet held for the said tithing at Michaelmas last.

22. The Court desires Francis Vaughan, Samuel Gorges, and John Tint, Esquires, justices, to enquire into a dispute between John Godwin of Naylezey and John Lawrence touching an alleged detention of wages from the latter ; and if they find that any wages are due, to compel Godwin to pay them, with costs, binding him over to appear at the next Sessions if he refuses. The matter was referred at last Sessions to the two first-named justices, but nothing has been done, M^r Gorges having been lately sick.

23. Order,—on complaint by Mr. — Galhampton, constable of the hundred of Taunton and Taunton Deane, that he has served the office for a year ending at Michaelmas last, and

that Mr. George Merefeild was appointed for this year at the last Court Leet,—that the said Mr. Merefeild, who has failed to appear at this Session to make good his claim to exemption as an attorney-at-law, be sworn to execute the office. But, ‘to the end that the burden may not altogether be laid on the old constable,’ the Court also orders that Mr. Nicholas Hare of Cheddon be sworn before the nearest justice to execute the office, and be bound over to answer at the next General Sessions if he refuse to do so.

24. Order that the treasurer for maimed soldiers do pay the pensioners at this Sessions such a proportion of their pensions as his want of money will allow, on condition that if his accounts at next Sessions shew a surplus, a further allowance shall be made to them.

25. Order, in pursuance of a recent statute, that the sum of 1s. weekly [be levied] from a tenement in Buckland Denham belonging to Henry Butcher of that place, who has run away, leaving his base child by Susan Cooke of that place chargeable to the parish.

26. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Woolavington and Bridgewater, for the settlement of the widow and 3 children of Thomas Duke, and Robert Limbry, his apprentice, at Bridgewater; as Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices, to whom the matter was referred at the last Bridgewater Sessions, have found that Duke, his wife, children and apprentice, were settled at Bridgewater until Lady Day last, when they came to Woollavington and remained there about ten days, and that on being summoned to leave, Duke pretended to have rented a tenement there of John Grimsteed at 13*l.* a year, whereas he never entered the tenement or found security for the rent, which he had agreed to do before entering, and that shortly afterwards he died.

27. Order that a rate be made on the Eastern Division of the hundred of Northpetherton for levying 11*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, and

request to the two nearest justices to see that the rate be made and the said sum paid to John Gatcombe of Chedzoy, who has complained that 11*l.* was levied from him by the collector of the Greenwax of the county for issues returned on process out of this Court for the repair of a highway in Horsey, which should be repaired by the inhabitants of the said hundred, and that he has disbursed the said 11*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* in and about the premises.

28. Order by Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Annis Pitman of Streate; Thomas Hyatt of Streate, husbandman, being the reputed father. Dated 20 December, 1665.

29. Order by John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of Francis, a base child of Mary Hoskins; Francis Hathway of Buckland St Mary, clerk, being the reputed father. Dated 23 December, 1665.

30. Order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Susan Cooke of Buckland Denham; Henry Butcher of the same parish being the reputed father. Dated 15 December, 1665.

ILCHESTER SESSION. 24 April, 18 Charles II. [1666.]

1. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals to pay William Smith, late keeper of the common gaol at Ivelchester, 40*s.* 8*d.* which he has expended on bread for the prisoners.

2. Confirmation of a poor rate for the parish of Froome which was allowed by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Peter Roynon, John Harrington, and John Hipplesly, Esquires, justices, on 11 August, 1662.

3. Declaration,—on a complaint by the churchwardens and other officers of South Cadbury and other parishes that ministers refuse to pay for the maimed soldiers, hospitals, highways and bridges,—that impropriations and all tithes are subject to be rated and assessed for such payments.

4. Discharge of Anne Corpe from her apprenticeship with William Hall of Olford in the parish of Berkeley and Standerweeke, by consent of both parties.

5. The Court desires William Helyar, Henry Walrond, and John Cary, Esquires, justices, to take the accounts of the late treasurers of the maimed soldiers and hospitals.

6. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Kingsbury and Martock, for the settlement of John Matrevers at Martock until the next General Sessions ; and thereafter, unless cause to the contrary be shewn.

7. The Court appoints George Stedman of Stratton, gentleman, to be treasurer for the maimed soldiers, in place of John Carew, Esq. ; and desires James Prowse and John Cary, Esquires, justices, to take the late treasurer's account.

8. The Court appoints Thomas Strowde of Dowlish, gentleman, to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, in place of Thomas Baynard, Esq. ; and desires etc. as above.

9. The Court appoints William Hilliard of Sea, Esq., to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, in place of William Speke, Esq. ; and desires etc. as above.

10. Order for the appearance of William Bennett and Thomas Bennett, sub-commissioners of Excise, at the next General Sessions, to answer concerning abuses and exactions with which they are charged by Anthony Cooke of Froome Zelwood, alehouse keeper.

11. Admission of John Wall of Shapwick, who was wounded in the late wars 'for King Charles the First of ever blessed memory,' to a pension of 40s. per annum, in the room of John Moses of Shapwick, dead or departed the county.

12. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and George Stawell, Esq., justices, to take legal steps to secure payment of 8*l.* and more which Robert Bigge, mason, Joan Squire, widow, John Hawkins, carpenter, Henry Squire, blacksmith, and John Sherstone, lime burner, claim to be due to them for building a bridge and "clise" in Sedgemore, for which they were employed by the major part of the town of Somerton.

13. Order for payment by the treasurers of the hospitals of the Eastern and Western Divisions to Edward Davis, keeper of the House of Correction at Ivelchester, of 26*l.* 11*s.* which he has spent on the repair of the said house, to wit, to the carpenter for timber and work 22*l.* 16*s.*, and to the smith for ironwork 3*l.* 15*s.*

14. The Court desires Edward Court, Esq., justice, to swear Thomas Balch, John Lee, or some other fit person, to execute the office of tithingman of Copland ; as Balch, who was bound over to appear at this Session for refusing to be sworn, has made it appear that Lee should undertake the office for the tenement in which he lives.

15. The Court desires Sir William Windham, Knt. and Bart., Sir George Trevelyan, Bart., and John Mallett, Esq., justices, to settle the rates for the tithing of Yarner, or else to make a report at the next General Sessions ; as the lord and tenants of the manor of Bratton have complained that they are over-rated.

16. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar, Esq., justices, to settle a dispute between

William Marsh of Hardington and Benedict Blagdon, or else to report to the next General Sessions ; Marsh having alleged that about 16 years ago Blagdon took away his goods to the value of 6*l.* or 7*l.*, and detained from him 2 closes, thus reducing him to poverty.

17. Suppression of John Stephens of Milborne Porte from selling ale and beer, on information by Athawin Othery and Robert Clench that he permits and countenances unlawful games and pastimes in his house ; and request to the nearest justice to bind him over to answer at the next Sessions for his contempt in departing from this Sessions without licence.

18. Order,—on the submission of Henry Walter of Brewham, who was committed at the last Sessions to the House of Correction at Shepton Malett for wrongs and injuries done to Jane, his wife, and on an undertaking by John Inges, his brother-in-law, for payment of 50*s.* yearly to Jane,—for the discharge of Walter from the said House of Correction, and for payment of the 50*s.* quarterly during the joint lives of Jane and her husband.

19. The Court desires the two justices nearest to the hundred of North Petherton to settle a complaint by the constables and inhabitants of the hundred that the town and parish of Bridgewater is under-rated for the hospitals and maimed soldiers ; or else to report to the next General Sessions.

20. Ratification of an agreement by the inhabitants of the parish of Huntspill for raising by a pound rate a sum of money to build a new house for the poor on the site of the church house (where the poor used to dwell and be maintained), which has lately fallen down.

21. Order,—on a complaint made by Robert Challoner, Esq., receiver of Hearth Money in the county, touching delays in payment of the same, and in pursuance of a letter to the justices from the Lord Treasurer and Chancellor of the Exchequer, dated at Oxford on 28 November last,—that all

constables of hundreds and liberties, on receipt of a warrant or precept from the receiver, shall issue their warrants to the petty constables and tithingmen to collect the revenue and pay it over to the receiver or his deputy ; and that, in case of negligence, the nearest justice shall take steps to expedite the collection.

22. Confirmation of a monthly rate of 14*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* made by Sir George Norton, Knt., Thomas Gore, Knt., and Samuel Gorges and Thomas Pigott, Esquires, the four justices nearest to Bedminster, on the hundreds and parishes within 5 miles of Bedminster, towards the relief of the persons in the parish of Bedminster infected with the plague ; as the 400 inhabitants of Bedminster are very poor, "their chief maintenance consisting in manufactory," which they cannot prosecute at present, being debarred from trade with Bristol, where most of their commodities were sold.

23. The Court desires Sir Francis Roll, Knt., and William Bull, Edward Court, and John Cary, Esquires, justices, to take steps for setting aside a fourth part of a wood called 'Hunwood' in the parish of Streete for inclosure for the period and purpose provided by statute ; as a dispute has arisen between Mr. William Strode, lord of the wood, and the inhabitants of the parish who have common of pasture in the wood, the inhabitants refusing to assent to the said inclosure, though due notice was given to them by Henry Earle by Mr. Strode's direction.

24. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, to settle a difference between the town and parish of Chard and some of the inhabitants of Chardland touching the poor rate ; as John Atkins, Philip Drake, gentleman, and one Clement Solwood, all of Chard, were bound over to appear at this Sessions, on the complaint of Geoffrey Penson, Richard Munday and Edith Hayne, to receive judgement, but the

business does not appear to be fit for determination, as neither of the parties have come 'provided.'

25. Order that Edward Single and Thomas Jellett, overseers of Donyatt, do on Sunday next give notice in church to all the inhabitants, and send notice to all out-dwellers with lands in the parish, that they assemble and fix on a poor rate in accordance with the order made at the last General Sessions at Bridgewater, namely, that the then existing rate should be collected but should not be a precedent, and that a new rate should be made before this Sessions, in which the houses should be rated with the lands of the respective inhabitants, and not separately, unless any house were held by a tenant distinct and apart from his lands.

26. Order to the parishes of Priston in the hundred of Keynsham, and Timsbury, to appear before Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and John Harrington and Peter Roynon, Esquires, at their next privy sessions at Keinsham; and request to the said justices to settle the difference between the two parishes touching the settlement of Thomas Catley, and to report to the next General Sessions; the inhabitants of Priston having complained that Catley has been in service for 5 years and more in Timsbury, and was hurt and maimed there, and that Timsbury refuses him relief on pretence that he has an estate in part of a cottage in Priston, and both parties having appeared before the justices named above a week ago last Thursday and appealed to this General Sessions, at which Timsbury has neglected to appear.

27. The Court recommends to the two justices nearest to Froome the case of the assessment of John Ridout of Froome for poor rate, which was referred to them at the last Wells Sessions, they having done nothing in the matter; and, on being informed on Mr. Ridout's behalf that he is rated or threatened to be rated for his personal estate and moneys at interest, he having no visible estate whatever in Froome except

a tenement and about 5 acres of ground which he holds at a rack rent of 25*l.* per annum of one Mr. Smith of Froome, the Court declares their opinion that interest money or invisible estate is not rateable for poor rate, and declares that Mr. Ridout, and not the lessor, ought to be rated for the tenement and lands.

28. Order, in a dispute between Henry Dibble of Gregory Stoake and Mary, his wife, now at the parish of Northpetherton, that Dibble do pay 20*s.* to the churchwardens and overseers of Northpetherton for the use of Mary, in full satisfaction of the arrears of the 1*s.* 6*d.* weekly which he agreed on 27 January last to give her for her maintenance, and 1*s.* 6*d.* weekly henceforth.

29. Confirmation of a report by John Turberville, Esq., and Edward Court, Esq., justices, that on examining the book of rates for the parish of Broadway they found that the estate of Mr. William Doble in Broadway was never rated by the pound rate at more than 30*l.* per annum until he came to enjoy it, and that the rate has since been raised to 40*l.* although no other person in the parish has had his rate raised, and that sundry abusive and unwarrantable practices in erasing and altering the book of rates, in regard to Mr. Doble in particular, had taken place, and that they thought Mr. Doble's rate should be reduced to 30*l.* ; and order accordingly.

30. The Court, taking into consideration the necessities of the poor in many parishes, which are partly due to want of employment "in this dead time of trade," and the great numbers who wander about begging on that pretence, and the great danger which may arise therefrom by spreading the infection of the plague, "which is already begun in some parts of the county," orders all churchwardens and overseers of the poor to take care that the Poor Laws are put in execution, and that stocks are provided and other care taken to set the poor to work in the respective parishes ; and requires the sheriff to make proclamation hereof in all market towns.

Presentment of the Grand Jury as to wages for labourers and others for next year :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| (1) Men servants <i>per annum</i> | 4 | 0. | 0 |
| (2) Maid servants <i>per annum</i> | 2. | 0. | 0 |
| (3) Mowers <i>per diem</i> , finding themselves | 1. | 4 | |
| (4) Mowers <i>per diem</i> , at meat and drink | | 8 | |
| (5) Haymakers at meat and drink | | 6. | |
| (6) Haymakers finding themselves | 1. | 0. | |
| (7) Men at corn harvest, finding themselves | 1. | 4 | |
| (8) Men at meat and drink. | | 8. | |
| (9) Women at corn harvest, finding themselves | 10. | | |
| (10) Women at meat and drink | | 6. | |
| (11) Masons, carpenters and tilers from 15 March to 15 September, finding them- selves | 1. | 4. | 8. |
| (12) The same at meat and drink | | 8. | |
| (13) The same from 15 September to 15 March, finding themselves | 1. | 2. | |
| (14) The same at meat and drink | | 7. | |
| (15) Threshers and ditchers from 15 March to 15 September, finding themselves | 1. | 0. | |
| (16) The same at meat and drink | | 6. | |
| (17) The same from 15 September to 15 March, finding themselves | | 10. | |
| (18) The same at meat and drink | | 5. | |
| (19) Mowing an acre of grass, finding themselves | 1. | 2. | |
| (20) Making an acre of grass to hay | 1. | 6. | |
| (21) Mowing an acre of barley | | 10. | |
| (22) Cutting and binding an acre of wheat | 3. | 0. | |

Account of Thomas Baynard of Blagdon, Esq., treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1665.

Receipts, 121*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*

Payments, 114*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

TAUNTON SESSION. 10 July, 18 Charles II. [1666.]

1. The Court desires Mr. John Lewis, deputy to the late treasurer for the maimed soldiers, to make the necessary receipts and payments at this Sessions, as George Stedman, gentleman, the present treasurer, has not appeared.

2. Order that the said Mr. John Lewis do pay within 10 days to John Buckland, Esq., justice, 10*l.* for the repair of several county bridges in accordance with former orders of the Court.

3. A like order that the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division do pay 5*l.*

4. Order that William Hilliard of Sea, Esq., treasurer for the hospitals of the Western Division, do pay 6*l.* to John Brent of Cosington, Esq., for the like sum levied upon him for amercements for the non-repair of county bridges.

5. On a dispute between the parishes of Limington and Northover, the Court does not think fit to settle Bryan Gillot, his wife and child, at Northover, but discharges Northover from further relief of them.

6. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Dulverton and Puckington, for the settlement of Thomas Hooper, a poor man, at Puckington.

7. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Strington and Netherstowey, that William Edwardes, *alias* Morgan, of Strington, and his wife and 4 small children, be sent to Strington unless security be found "for the saving of Netherstowey."

8. The Court desires the two nearest justices to examine and make order on a petition of John Serrey, barber-surgeon,

for payment of 5*l.* 13*s.* for curing the son of the Widow Abbot of Martock, who was bitten by a mastiff of Mr. Colston's, the cure having been done at the request of one of Mr. Colston's servants.

9. Licence, on reading a certificate by the churchwardens and overseers of Fitzhead and a grant by Sir John Coventry, K.B., lord of the manor there, for Robert Knight to build a cottage on the waste of the manor and hold it for life, its subsequent disposal being regulated by statute.

10. Discharge of William Plowman from his indentures of apprenticeship with Henry Humphry, *alias* Godfry, of Oldcleeve; as Humphry has become poor and lame and cannot keep the apprentice, and the churchwardens and overseers of Old Cleeve have consented to the discharge.

11. Licence, on reading a certificate by the minister, churchwardens and other inhabitants of Westbuckland and a grant by David Slocombe and Edward Thruston, gentlemen, lords *pro tempore* of the manor there, for James Baker to build a cottage on the waste of the manor, etc., as above [*last entry but one*].

12. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, to view the stairs and pales [of the Common Gaol] that are newly set up and repaired by a late order, and to issue orders to the treasurer of the hospitals for payment of the requisite sums therefor.

13. Order that 11*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* be levied by a rate from the inhabitants of Horsey tithing, and paid to John Gatcombe of Chedzoy, who has had that amount levied from him by the collector of the Greenwax of the county for non-repair of a highway in the said tithing in the parish of Bridgewater; as the Court considers that the nuisance was in the tithing.

14. Confirmation of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices, for the settlement of William Boone and Prudence, his wife, who have lately come to Hatch Beachampe, at Currey Mallett.

15. The Court desires Robert Hunt, George Stawell, William Helyar, Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to settle a difference between the inhabitants of Muchelney and Loade touching the settlement of Elizabeth Martin ; or else to report to the next Sessions.

16. The Court desires Francis Poulet and John Hall, Esquires, justices, to make order on a complaint that Henry Nicholls of Shepton Malett " has lately walled and stopped up an ancient way to the river and watercourse belonging to the House of Correction " ; or else to report to the next Sessions.

17. The Court desires Edward Clarke, Esquire, justice, to bind over Lewis Parris of Milverton to answer at the next General Sessions for having used scandalous and opprobrious words about Robert Hawley, Esq., justice, and to be of good behaviour meanwhile ; or else to commit him to the common gaol at Ivelchester.

18. The Court, by consent of John Sweeting of Staplegrove, Henry Shattock, his apprentice, and the churchwardens and overseers of Staplegrove, discharges Sweeting of his apprentice, who is somewhat diseased, on condition that he pay 3*l*. to the overseers towards binding him out to some other person, and orders that Sweeting shall not have an apprentice placed to him until Shattock attain the age of 24 years, and that the same rule shall be followed generally in the parish.

19. Licence, on reading a petition of the ministers, churchwardens and inhabitants of Stoake Trister, and a grant by Hugh Windham, serjeant-at-law, lord of the manor there, for Thomas Forward, a poor, aged man, to build a cottage on the waste of the manor and hold it for life, its subsequent disposal being regulated by statute.

20. On a dispute between the parishes of Langford Budvile and Aishbrittle touching the settlement of William Trowey, who lately left Aishbrittle on pretence of having bought a cottage at Langford from Roger Bourne, Esq., the Court thinks fit not to remove Trowey from Langford, provided Aishbrittle will find security by Wednesday next before Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to indemnify Langford if Trowey becomes chargeable there; otherwise Trowey is to be settled at Aishbrittle.

21. Order that, on payment of 10s. by William Hole of Bossington to Lewis Sweeting, agent for collecting Excise duties, Sweeting shall surrender the 4 pewter dishes, 1 brass pan, 1 "birding peece" and 1 pair of andirons which he took as distress from Hole in spite of a composition and offer of money having been made by the latter. If Sweeting refuses to obey, the Court desires the justice nearest to Bossington to deal with him for contempt.

22. Confirmation of an order made at Taunton Sessions, 17 Charles II, that no person living in the town or parish of Ilmister should henceforth be elected or sworn to execute the office of constable of the hundred of Abdick, unless good cause were shown at the next Sessions.

23. Confirmation of an order by John Turberville, Edward Court and James Prowse, Esquires, justices, in a dispute between the parishes of Taunton St James and Durston, for the settlement of Peter Meree and his 3 small children at Taunton St James.

24. Order,—in further explanation of the order made at the last Ivelchester Sessions in favour of Mr. William Doble [*p.* 12],—that if the rates on the estates of any persons in Broadway be reduced below what they were on the date of an order of reference made at last Taunton Sessions, then Mr. Doble's rate shall be reduced proportionately.

25. Confirmation of a report by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar, Esq., justices, touching a dispute between the inhabitants of Chard and Chardland as to whether the inhabitants of Chardland should be rated to the poor with those of Chard, to the effect that both places have been and are rated together for church rates, and have until the last few years been so rated for poor rate ; and order accordingly.

26. The Court declares its opinion that the town of Bridge-water cum Haygrove, part of the hundred of Northpetherton, is in no wise exempted from payment of its proportion of the money due from the hundred for the relief of maimed soldiers ; and orders that the arrears of 3*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* due from the town be forthwith paid to the constables of the hundred, and that henceforth the town's proportion be paid quarterly. Notice of this order to be given to the mayor and other officers of the town.

27. The Court,—on hearing a complaint by Mary, wife of Henry Dibble of Gregory Stoake, that her husband has not carried out the order for her maintenance made at Ivelchester Sessions last [*p.* 12], and a complaint by the overseers of Northpetherton that the weekly allowance under the said order will not maintain Mary,—desires Sir John Warre, Knt., and Edward Court, Esq., justices, to summon Henry and bind him over to next Sessions if he will not obey the said order ; and orders that Mary be removed from Northpetherton to Gregory Stoake, unless the churchwardens and overseers of the latter place will give security against her becoming chargeable to Northpetherton.

28. Order, on a complaint by the inhabitants of Northpetherton that the collector of the Greenwax has levied 32*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* from some of the inhabitants 'for issues for not repairing of highways' in the parish, that the said sum be raised by a general rate on the parish, and paid over to the persons to whom of right it ought to be paid.

BRIDGEWATER SESSION. 2 October, 18 Charles II. [1666.]

1. The Court desires Henry Rogers, Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices, to examine and report on an allegation by John Canington of Bromefield that he has no estate in the said parish to justify the placing of an apprentice with him.

2. The Court desires the two justices nearest to the parish of Northpetherton to cause the churchwardens and overseers of the parish to make a rate of 5*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* on the inhabitants of the Town Division of Northpetherton, and to pay the same to Walter Lindon, an inhabitant of the parish, for the like amount levied from him for non-repair of highways.

3. The Court desires Sir Maurice Berkeley, Knt. and Bart., Robert Hunt and John Cary, Esquires, justices, to settle a complaint by the inhabitants and occupiers of lands in the tithing of Wincaulton touching a difference in their rates.

4. The Court desires Sir George Trevelyan, Bart., and Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to settle a complaint by the inhabitants of Wiveliscombe that the common and public watercourse belonging to the town is stopped and obstructed by certain persons ; or else to report at the next General Sessions.

5. Order for the admission of Robert Smith to a pension of 40*s.* a year payable quarterly by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers, in the room of James George, deceased.

The like for Thomas Norcott in the room of James Veazy.

6. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Forton in the parish of Chard to summon before them Henry Trott of Forton and Anne, his wife, and settle a complaint by Anne that her husband ill-treats her and denies her sufficient maintenance ; or else to report at the next General Sessions.

7. Order, in a dispute between the parishes of Northpetherton, Michael Creech and Kingston near Taunton, for the settlement of Anne Jones, *alias* Cheude, at Kingston, unless cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

8. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay Robert Champion of Meare 5*l.* which have been levied on him by the collector of the Greenwax by virtue of a process out of the Court of Exchequer against the inhabitants of the county.

9. The like order for Lewis Dadscombe of Brushford for 10*l.* ; Western Division.

10. The like order for James Shute of Dunster for 3*l.* ; Eastern Division.

11. Order, in a dispute between the inhabitants of Yarlington and Shepton Montagu, that Robert Stone, now at Yarlington, be settled at Shepton Montague, unless cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

12. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Bromefeild to see that the churchwardens and overseers of the parish place the 4 children of Francis Bragg of Bromefeild, a poor man, with masters, and to bind them over to the next General Sessions if they refuse to do so.

13. The Court desires the two justices nearest to the parish of Michael Creech to examine the truth of a complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of the parish that Thomas Hooper, who owed a considerable sum to the poor of the parish, was convicted, attainted and executed at the last Assizes, and that his goods have since come to the hands of several persons, but no satisfaction has been given to the poor ; and to make order thereon, or else report at the next General Sessions.

14. The Court, on a petition of John Perry of Wellington, who has served as constable of the hundred of Kingsbury West for a year, nominates John Thomas of Westbuckland as his successor for next year, and orders Thomas to take the oath before a justice ; if he refuses, the justice is to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

15. Confirmation of an order by John Turberville and William Lacy, Esquires, justices, in a dispute between the parishes of Westbagborow and Luxborow, for the settlement of Laurence Pinn, with his wife and apprentice boy, at Luxborow ; and order accordingly unless the parish of Luxborow shall shew cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

16. Order discharging Charles Bennett from his apprenticeship with Mr. John How of Somerton, gentleman, who has been convicted at this Sessions of beating and ill-treating him, and fined 40 marks therefor ; and order that Mr. How deliver over to the churchwardens and overseers of Somerton all Bennett's cloths and wearing apparel, and that the churchwardens and overseers place Bennett with another master.

17. Order, on the refusal of Mr. George Stedman of Stratton to execute the office of treasurer of the maimed soldiers, that Mr. John Lewis, deputy to John Carew of Camerton, Esq., the late treasurer, do continue to serve the office for the residue of this year, and that Mr. Stedman pay him 8*l.* for such service.

18. On complaint that a bridge called Taunton Bridge, *alias* Fleetebridge, in or near Taunton, is in great decay for want of repair, the Court, learning that the bridge has hitherto been repaired at the charges of the county, orders that Mr. John Weatham and Mr. William Turner do see to its repair, and that their expenses be reimbursed by the treasurers of the hospitals equally at the next Sessions.

19. The Court desires Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, who lately made an order for settlement of

William Trowey at Ashbrittle in consequence of the failure of Ashbrittle to give security to indemnify the parish of Langford Budvile if Trowey became chargeable there [*see p. 17*], to see that Trowey is taken to the House of Correction for refusing to obey their said order.

WELLS SESSION. 8 January, 18 Charles II. [1667.]

1. The Court desires Francis Poulett, William Bull and John Hall, Esquires, justices, to examine the truth of a petition from William Bithesea of Pilton, shewing that several sums have been levied from him as amercements for not repairing a bridge between the town of Glaston and Streete; and to make order for his reimbursement.

2. Reference to the four justices nearest to Wells of a dispute between the parishioners of Okey and the inhabitants of West Horrington in the parish of St Cuthbert's, Wells, touching the settlement of Thomas Paine, a base child of Agnes Paine, whereof — Buxton is the reputed father.

3. Admission of Robert Draper of Froome Zelwood, who fought and was wounded for Charles I, and is poor, to a yearly pension of 40s. to be paid quarterly, starting at the next General Sessions.

4. The like order for William Pople of Marston Magna, in the place of William Brooke of Queene Camell.

5. The Court desires the justice nearest to Burneham Moore to examine and make order on a petition of Thomas Combe of South Brent shewing that he was tithingman of Burneham Moore for a year at Michaelmas last, and that he has not yet been discharged from the office, although Henry Rogers, Esq, in respect of a tenement there, was ordered at the last Court Leet to find a successor to him.

6. Order that 2*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* be raised by a general rate on the inhabitants of the tithing of Blackford ; as William Mitchell and William Godfree, two inhabitants of the tithing, have complained that they have disbursed that sum in the defence of a traverse on a presentment at Bridgewater Sessions, 1665, against the inhabitants of East Marke.

7. Order, on a dispute between the inhabitants of Mutchelney and Loade in the tithing of Martock, that Elizabeth Martin, a poor child of 7 and more, born at Loade, be settled at Loade.

8. Order, by consent of Nicholas Curle of Bromefield, and of [Thomas] Towills, acting on behalf of the said parish, that the cottage which Curle has erected in Bromefield be forthwith demolished, and that the churchwardens and overseers provide a house for him in the parish until a place be found for him to build another house on.

9. Whereas a certain bridge called Board Bridge lying on a great road in the parish of Drayton is in great need of repair, and it is alleged that half the bridge has hitherto been repaired by a pound rate on the copyholders of the manor, and that all the lands of the tithing consist of copyhold tenements, many of which have been purchased in fee, the remainder of the manor having come to Mr. John Stroude ; the Court, at the request of Mr. Stroude, orders that the owners of the tenements purchased in fee shall join with Mr. Stroude and his tenants in contributing to the repair of the bridge, as heretofore, unless cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

10. Licence, on reading a certificate by Philip Wattes and Edward Wattes, lords of the manor of Grinton, subscribed by the parson and chief inhabitants of the parish, for Richard Cary, a poor man, to erect a cottage on the lord's waste for the habitation of himself and his family, its subsequent use to be regulated by statute.

11. On a petition from Thomas Coles of Croscombe shewing that he was chosen tithingman of the tithing of Croscombe in October, 1665, and that John Strode was elected as his successor in October last, but refuses to be sworn; the Court desires Francis Powlett and John Hall, Esquires, justices, to swear Strode or any other fit person to execute the office, and to bind them over to the next Sessions if they refuse.

12. The Court desires the justices nearest to Bedminster to summon the constables and other officers who have failed to collect and pay over the rate of 12*l.* per week which the said justices, in accordance with an order made at Taunton Sessions last, caused to be made on several hundreds and the parishes therein, and also on the hundreds of Winterstoke, Brent and Bempstone, for the relief of the inhabitants of the parish of Bedminster, which was then much visited by the plague; and if they still neglect or refuse to do so, to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

13. The inhabitants of the parish of Bedminster having been indicted for not repairing a bridge in that parish called Bedminster Bridge, *alias* Bright Bow Bridge, but no evidence having been given at this Sessions to shew by whom the bridge ought to be repaired; the Court,—on information that the bridge lies on a great road leading from all the Western and Southern parts of the kingdom to Bristol, and is in great decay, and that several persons have lost their lives and others been greatly hurt and damaged, and that part of the bridge is already fallen and the rest likely to fall speedily,—desires Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Sir Thomas Bridges, Sir George Norton and Sir Thomas Gore, Knights, and Thomas Pigott, Samuel Gorges and John Tint, Esquires, justices, to enquire by whom the bridge ought to be repaired, and if they cannot decide on that point, to make a tax on the inhabitants of the county and appoint collectors to collect it and surveyors to receive it; and to report to the next General Sessions.

14. Reference to John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, of a petition from Elizabeth Hulbert, wife of Robert Hulbert of Chewton, who is almost blind and has been left by her husband with one young child and pregnant of another, complaining that her mother, Frances Wilcockes, *alias* Andrewes, of Chewton, has an estate of 40*l.* yearly for life and promised to settle 10*l.* yearly on Robert on his marriage, but now refuses to allow her any maintenance; and request to them to rate Frances for the relief of the petitioner, and if she refuse to obey, to bind her over to the next General Sessions.

15. On reading an order made by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, for the settlement of Thomas Wilcox of Stokelane, and on hearing Thomas Cox, overseer of Stokelane, (who was bound over to this Sessions for contempt of the said order), and the agents of the parish of Helcombe, and learning by the oath of one Richard Hewish that Wilcox was disturbed within 40 days after his last coming to Helcombe; the Court confirms the above order, and desires the nearest justice to bind over the overseers of Stokelane and send Wilcox to the House of Correction, if they or he refuse obedience to this order.

ILCHESTER SESSION. 16 April, 19 Charles II. [1667.]

1. Reference to Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and John Turberville, Esquire, justices, of certain differences which have arisen between Bartholomew Sminney, clerk, and John Towills, gentleman, and Agnes, his mother, both of Treborow.

2. Order for John Atkins of Brewton, a poor man who fought for Charles I, to receive a yearly pension of 40*s.* from the treasurer of the maimed soldiers, in the place of Robert Berriman of Brewton, deceased.

3. The like order for Bernard Patch of Aishcott, in the place of Thomas Owen.

4. The like order for John Plush of Shepton Malet, in the place of —.

5. The like order for Robert Marsh of Bridgewater.

6. The Court appoints John Cridland of Spaxton, gentleman, to be treasurer for the maimed soldiers in place of George Stedman, gentleman ; and desires Henry Walrond and Roger Bourne, Esquires, justices, to take the late treasurer's account.

7. The Court appoints Richard Batt of East Chinnock, gentleman, to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division in place of William Hilliard, Esquire ; and desires etc. as above.

8. The Court appoints Robert Jeanes of Easton in the parish of East Pennard to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division in place of Thomas Strode, gentleman ; and desires etc. as above.

9. The Court desires John Turberville, Esquire, justice, to send Nicholas Curle to the House of Correction unless within a fortnight he yield obedience to the order made at Wells Sessions last for the demolition of his cottage [p. 23].

10. The Court desires John Buckland, Esquire, justice, to send — of Chedder to the House of Correction for falsely making oath about Whitsuntide last that she was with child by James Martin of Cheddar ; or else to bind her over to the next Sessions.

11. Order that the treasurers of the hospitals do pay 10*l.* 15*s.* 4*d* at this Sessions to Mr. Edmund Daw, who by order of this Court lately compounded certain issues amounting to 64*l.* 10*s.* which were imposed on the county for the non-repair

of Woolward and Pensford Bridges and were lately estreated into the Court of Exchequer.

12. Order,—on a complaint that the borough and liberty of Milborne Porte refuse to pay their proportion of the money charged on the hundred of Horethorne for the maimed soldiers and hospitals,—that the said borough and liberty pay their proportion with the hundred, and not separately, unless good cause be shewn to the contrary.

13. Confirmation of two orders, one by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, and the other by the Court at Bridgewater Sessions last, touching the maintenance money to be paid by Richard Starre of Currey Rivell for the support and apprenticing of his reputed base child.

14. Reference to Sir George Norton, Knt., and Samuel Gorges, John Tint and Francis Vaughan, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between the parishes of Congersbury and Weston-super-Mare touching the settlement of Alice Jenkins and her base child, whereof Evan Llewellyn ap Evan is the reputed father. They are to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse to obey their order.

15. Confirmation of an order by James Prowse and John Turberville, Esquires, justices, dated 10 December last, for the removal of Thomas Hinde from Norton Fitzwarren to Bishopp's Hull, and for his settlement at the latter place.

16. The Court desires Sir George Horner, Knt., justice, to bind over to the next Sessions William Wempy, one of the constables of Kilmersdon hundred, for failing to execute a warrant by Sir George for the conveyance of Thomas Wilcox to the House of Correction for disobedience to an order made by Sir George, on a dispute between the parishes of Stokelane and Holcombe, touching his settlement.

17. On reading a petition of John Skinner and John — of Seavington Abbott shewing that the owner of the house in which they live, combining with others of the parish, has tried to evict them, although they have lived there for several years, have married in the parish, are silkweavers by trade, and have regularly paid their rent ; the Court desires the two nearest justices to summon those concerned and bind over to the next General Sessions those who refuse to provide a habitation for the petitioners.

18. On reading a petition from Thomas Foster and Rabidge, his wife, of Aller, a certificate by George Northover, Esq., and other the churchwardens, overseers and inhabitants of the parish, and a grant by George Stawell, Esq., lord of the manor there ; the Court grants licence for Foster to build a cottage on some waste ground of the manor of Aller at the foot of the hill on the east side of the house of Robert Beskerville near the watercourse, and to hold the same for life, its subsequent use being regulated by statute.

19. Order that a rate for 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* be made on the inhabitants of the parish of St John's in Glaston for the reimbursement of William Bithesea of Pilton and others, who have had that sum levied upon them for amercements for non-repair of a bridge lying between Glaston and Streete ; and request to the two nearest justices to confirm the rate, when made, and appoint collectors, binding over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse or neglect to pay their assessment.

20. Modification of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance by John Spragg of Winsham of his reputed base child by Eleanor Hill, increasing the weekly rate from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*

21. Confirmation of a report by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar, Esq., justices, shewing that the inhabitants of Chard and Chardland were rated together for poor

rate until a few years before the commencement of the mayoralty of Chard ; and order that both places be henceforth rated together.

22. Reference back to Sir George Horner, Knt., justice, of a complaint by Christopher Parsons of Froome, ' broadweaver,' that John Court, who was bound apprentice to him two years ago by the overseers of the parish, is lame and unable to work owing to a fall received before he was bound apprentice ; Sir George having attested the truth of the complaint and warned the overseers to appear at this Sessions to shew cause why the petitioner should not be discharged of the apprentice, and the overseers having failed to appear. If he cannot settle the matter, Sir George is to bind over the overseers to the next General Sessions.

23. The Court renews, in favour of Bevis Lloid and Richard Gwin, Esquires, receivers of Hearth Money in the county for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years from Lady Day, 1666, an order made at Ivelchester Sessions, 18 Charles II, in favour of Robert Challoner, Esq., the late receiver [*pp.* 9, 10] ; and draws attention to the following instructions for the collection of Hearth Money :—

- (a) Kitchen hearths, bakehouses, brewhouses and wash houses are to pay.
- (b) Single duty is to be demanded for any chimney found stopped, defaced, taken up or without a hearth, if it could at reasonable charge be made fit for use ; if payment is refused, a return must be made to the Exchequer, when double duty will be required.
- (c) All persons holding a house worth 20s. a year on full improvement, or with an estate of 10*l.*, must pay and ought not to be certified for.
- (d) Every house with more than 2 hearths (except alms-houses) must pay, and no persons dwelling there, however poor, should be certified for.

- (e) A poor man paying less than 20s. rent for part of a house, and worth less than 10*l.*, ought to be certified for ; but the landlord holding the land belonging to the house or the other part of the house which makes in the whole about 20s. rent must be named also, and the duty demanded from him, and if he refuse, he should be returned into the Exchequer for the pauper's house.
- (f) If two or more persons dwell in a house and have but one or two hearths, and each pays under 20s. a year rent and is not worth 10*l.*, they should be certified for ; but the name of the owner of the house should be given also, and if the whole rent amount to 20s., he must pay for his tenants or be returned into Exchequer.
- (g) All persons who are truly under 20s. a year rent, and hold no other house or land, and are not worth 10*l.*, should be certified for.
- (h) Most of the certificates delivered to the said receivers being imperfect, and their number being great, the master-wardens and overseers are to require from the constables and tithingmen a strict account of the rate and value of each person's house and estate, and no persons are to be certified for unless the constables and tithingmen specify them on oath at a public meeting to be held speedily after the making of the return in the presence of the justices and king's officers.

24. Order touching the borough and liberty of Milborne Port, as above [N^o 12].

25. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Limington and Northover, for the settlement of Brian Jillett, with his wife and children, at Northover, where he was born and has now become a covenant servant.

26. Confirmation of an order made at Wells Sessions last that the copyhold tenants of the manor of Drayton Westover,

and the owners and occupiers of Westover Farm and the new demesnes of the manor, should thenceforth contribute towards the repair of half the bridge called Barge Bridge, lying on a great road in the parishes of Drayton Westover and Mutchelney, by a pound rate, (as Mr. John Strode, lord of part of the aforesaid manor, has alleged that they were accustomed to do), unless they shewed good cause to the contrary at this Sessions, notwithstanding that many of the copyholders, having purchased the inheritances of their tenements, are refusing to contribute ; as the said copyholders and others have shewn no such good cause to the contrary.

27. On reading an order made at Taunton Sessions last touching Lewis Sweeting and William Hole [*p.* 17], and it appearing that the distress therein mentioned was made by Sweeting on the strength of his having recovered by indirect means the receipt which he gave to Hole for the 10s. due as excise from the latter ; the Court, with the consent of both parties and of William Bennett, sub-commissioner of Excise, orders Sweeting and Bennett to deliver the distress to Hole, and Hole to pay Sweeting and Bennett 10s.

28. Confirmation of an award made by Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, (upon an order of the Assizes held at Bath on 24 August, 16 Charles II), instructing the churchwardens and overseers of Froome to collect and dispose of the arrears of a rate which was made by some inhabitants of the parish and directed by them to be collected by the collectors of the almshouse of Froome and paid to Mr. Richard Combes and Mr. Benjamin Avery as treasurers of the almshouse, without any consideration of the poor of the parish ; and nullification of an order of Court made at Ivelchester Sessions, 18 Charles II, whereby the said rate, as first made, was confirmed without notice being taken of Mr. Hunt's award. All moneys received by virtue of the said order or rate are to be paid to the overseers for the uses mentioned in Mr. Hunt's award.

29. On a petition by Roger Sckerstone, William Singleton, Theophilus Dike, George Williamson, Richard Salkes, Fulhurst Newstead, George Crawley and Christopher Maunsell, prisoners in Ivelchester gaol, shewing that they were lately apprehended at Stogursey on suspicion of felony and conveyed to gaol by the constables or other officers or officer of the same town and hundred, who seized and disposed of their horses and goods, refusing to allow them the proceeds of the sale for their relief in gaol, on pretence that the costs of their conveyance, the keeping of their horses, and other charges, were great ; the Court declares 15*l.* to be sufficient for the satisfaction of all the charges incurred by the said officers, and orders that all the proceeds of the sale in excess of that amount be paid over to the keeper of the gaol for the relief and maintenance of the petitioners.

30. Whereas the inhabitants of the county have compounded with the Court of Exchequer for certain issues, amounting to 64*l.* 10*s.*, forfeited by them for non-repair of Woolward and Publow Bridges, and have procured Sir George Trevelyan, Bart., late sheriff, to be discharged thereof on his account, and whereas Mr. George Brooke, Sir George's deputy, or some of Sir George's bailiffs, have collected and received several sums towards the said issues, which ought to be restored ; the Court desires Sir John Warre, Knt., and John Turberville, Edward Court and James Prowse, Esquires, justices, to find what sums were so received, and to receive them back.

31. Approval and confirmation of a certificate by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B., and the other justices to whom the matter of Bedminster Bridge was referred at Wells Sessions last [*p.* 24], shewing that they summoned a meeting of the constables of the several hundreds of the county at Bedminster on Tuesday, the 9th inst., and proceeded to the bridge and made enquiries, but could not find that it was ever repaired by the inhabitants of Bedminster or any other persons, lands, tenements or bodies politic, whereupon they secured from two masons an estimate

for the repair of the bridge and found that 260*l.* must be raised on the parishes of the county for the purpose. The Court desires the said justices to proceed to the levying of the said sum, and to do whatever is appointed by Statute for the repair of the bridge, the season of the year requiring it.

32. The Court desires the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Francis Rolle, Knt., and Francis Poulett, William Bull and John Hall, Esquires, and also Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, to summon the churchwardens, overseers and inhabitants of the parishes of St John and St Benedict, Glaston, Meare, Pilton and West Pennard, view their poor-rate books, examine the rating of the estates in the parishes and their value, and adjust the disputes between the parishes as to poor rate; the inhabitants of Meare, Pilton and West Pennard having complained that, owing to the large number of poor in their parishes, they are not able to comply with an order made by the Bishop and Francis Poulett, dated 23 April, 1666, requiring Meare to pay 4*l.* yearly towards the relief of the poor of St John's, Glaston, and the like amount for the poor of St Benedict's, (in addition to 40*s.* formerly paid to the latter parish), and Pilton and West Pennard to pay other sums mentioned in the order, which order the churchwardens and overseers of Meare formerly disobeyed, but have since obeyed in consequence of an order made at the last Summer Assizes at Bath.

TAUNTON SESSION. 9 July, 19 Charles II. [1667.]

1. Mr. John Canington of Bromefeild having been found guilty of contempt in refusing to take Joseph Bragg, a poor child of the parish, as his indentured apprentice; the Court, with Canington's assent, orders him to receive the said apprentice and pay 5 marks to the churchwardens and overseers of Bromefeild before St James' next towards the costs occasioned to the parishioners by his means.

2. Order, on a certificate by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, that the costs of the new stairs and pales of the Common Gaol amounted to 12*l.* 7*s.*, for the payment of that sum by the treasurers of the hospitals of both divisions to Richard Denslow, late underkeeper of the said gaol.

3. Order, on a dispute between the parishioners of Bromefield, Mr. Thomas Towills and Nicholas Curle, and with their consent, that Curle shall before 1 August next remove from the cottage which he erected contrary to statute into the smaller house of Mr. Towills at the upper end of Wood Common in Bromefield, and have a garden part of the said house, the parishioners paying Mr. Towills 20*s.* a year for rent of the said house. The Court desires John Turberville, Esq., justice, to see that this order is obeyed.

4. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals to pay at this Sessions to Mr. John Weatham (*or* Weltham) of Taunton 11*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, which he has disbursed for the repair of Taunton Bridge, *alias* Fleete Bridge, in pursuance of an order of this Court.

5. Order to the same treasurers to pay to Lewis Dadscombe of Brushford 10*l.* which have been levied on him by the Collector of the Greenwax by virtue of a process out of the Court of Exchequer against the inhabitants of the county.

6. On a petition of George Wescombe, tithingman of the manor and 'denizen' of Milverton, shewing that about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ years ago he was elected tithingman for a year, and that John Jenings, who was presented to execute the office at the leet and law day held there on 19 April last, refuses to be sworn; the Court desires the nearest justice to swear Jenings to execute the office, and bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to do so.

7. Order discharging Edmond Glasse of Wellington of his apprentice, John Boite.

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8. Admission of John Baber of Minehead, who was maimed and lost the use of his right hand in the King's service at sea against the Dutch, to a yearly pension of 40s., payable quarterly from this Sessions.

9. The like in favour of Malachi Brewer of West Quantoxhead, who was a loyal soldier for his Majesty and is very indigent ; in the room of Edmund Parsons, deceased.

10. The like in favour of John Hurley of East Quantoxhead.

11. On a petition of some of the inhabitants of the liberty and village of Charterhouse Hydon shewing that they have many aged and infirm people who are likely to perish from want, and that one Short, a poor child, was about two years ago declared to be settled and provided for there, although there are no church officers there to take care for the relief of the poor, the liberty lying in no parish ; the Court, in pursuance of the Act of 14 Charles II. for the relief of the poor, orders and desires Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Sir George Norton, Knt., and Samuel Gorges, Thomas Pigott and John Tint, Esquires, justices, to appoint overseers of the poor in the said liberty and village, and orders a pound poor-rate to be made there from time to time, as need arises.

12. On complaint that Joan Knight, a poor child of Thorne St Margaret, was bound apprentice by John Potter, churchwarden, and Amos Slococke, overseer, of that parish (by indenture of 7 July, 18 Charles II, signed by Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices), to Peter Kerslake as tenant of Mr. George Upton for an estate called Breerely Farm in the said parish, and that Upton and Kerslake refuse to receive her, alleging that they or one of them paid Slocock 50s. in discharge of the indenture ; the Court confirms the indenture, orders Kerslake to receive the apprentice, and desires

Edward Clarke, Esq., justice, to see that this order is obeyed and to bind Slocock over to the next Sessions if he refuses to pay back the 50s.

13. The Court does not think fit at present to vary an order made by Robert Hunt and John Cary, Esquires, justices, in a dispute between the parishes of Walton and Marston, for the settlement of Anne Whitconell at Walton, but will finally determine the matter at the next Sessions by consent of the agents of both parishes. The taxed and assessed costs and charges of the action are, by the like consent, to be paid by the losing parish to the winning.

14. Licence, on reading a grant by John Bowerman, lord of the manor of Barton David, and a certificate of the churchwardens and overseers of Barton David, for Thomas Meaker and Thomas Eastmond to build a cottage on the waste of the manor and hold it for their lives, its subsequent disposal being regulated by statute.

15. On a petition of the inhabitants of Huntspill shewing that for several years 3 constables have been chosen for the hundred of Huntspill and Puriton, 2 of them being chosen from Huntspill, and praying that only one such constable may be chosen henceforth in that parish, seeing that 4 tithingmen are always sworn there and one constable is sufficient; the Court approves the petition and orders accordingly, subject to the consent of the lord of the manor of Huntspill.

16. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Wootton Courtney and Minehead, for the settlement of Giles Lang, with his wife and children, at Wootton Courtney, in accordance with an order by Sir William Windham, Knt. and Bart., and Sir John Malet, Knt., justices.

17. No good cause to the contrary having been shewn, the Court makes absolute the order made at Ivelchester Sessions

last as to the payment of money for the maimed soldiers and hospitals by the borough and liberty of Milborne Porte [*p.* 27].

18. Order, by consent of Henry Dibble of Gregory Stoke and Mary, his wife, who is living apart from him, that Henry shall pay 5*l.* yearly in weekly instalments to the churchwardens and overseers of Gregory Stoke for the relief of Mary, starting on Saturday next, and shall deliver to Mary her wearing apparel now in his custody and a bed of hers ; as it appears that he received a portion of 70*l.* in money with her.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 1 October, 19 Charles II. [1667.]

1. Reference to Edward Court, Esq., justice, of a dispute between George Browne of Whitstaunton and William Brounsey, the elder, and his son, William Brounsey, the younger. Failing a settlement, he is to certify the true state of the case at the next General Sessions.

2. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay to the keeper of the county gaol the sum of 1*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.* which he has spent on the repair of the gaol.

3. Order for admission of John Parre, *alias* Harding, of Bicknaller, to a pension of 40*s.* a year in the place of Edmund Parsons, deceased.

4. Request to John Turberville, Esq., Robert Hawley, Esq., and Edward Clark, Esq., justices, to appoint persons in the parish of Milverton to make and settle pound rates within the borough of Milverton and the vills and tithings in the parish, which shall serve as a rule and guide for future rates ; and reference to them of any disputes which may arise in regard to the same ; as complaint has been made by several of the inhabitants of the parish that there is no such pound rate (except in the tithing of Preston Bowyer in the said parish)

to serve as a guide either for making distinct tithing rates for sending felons apprehended there to the common gaol, or for other rates, and that all rates have for several years been so confusedly made that lands lying in one of the villis and tithings have been rated in another, and that rates have been made very unequally, and that far greater sums have been raised than have been legally imposed, which sums, by a practice amongst several persons who have been assessors and collectors there, have come into, and still remain in, the hands of particular persons in the parish.

5. On a petition of John Thomas of Westbuckland desiring that George Pile of Bishopp's Liddiard be sworn as his successor in the office of constable of the hundred of Kingsbury West, which he has served for more than a year; the Court desires the nearest justice to swear Pile to execute the office, or bind him over to the next Sessions if he refuses.

6. On hearing a dispute between Mr. John Eastmond and Anthony Goodson, collector of excise, from which it appears that on 22 August, 1665, Eastmond paid Goodson a composition of 10s. for 8 hogshead of old cider, of which he only exposed 2 for sale, and that since then he has made 14 hogshead more, (11 in 1665 and 3 in 1666), none of which he has retailed, and that, as he did not make the statutory entries of the new cider, Goodson has levied 10*l.* on his goods, for which he appeals for relief; the Court orders Goodson to pay Eastmond the said 10*l.*, seeing that none of the new cider was retailed, and desires the nearest justice to deal with him further if he refuses.

7. The Court, taking notice of the inconveniences arising from the custom of justices of the peace binding persons over to appear "at the next Sessions," whereupon the persons bound take liberty to appear at any time during the Sessions, desires the said justices to make out all their recognisances for the first day of the Sessions. On failure of any person so

bound to appear on the said first day, a *non comperuit* shall be entered on his recognisance.

8. Order,—on the non-appearance of some of the witnesses for the parish of Marston in a dispute between that parish and the parish of Walton touching the settlement of the child of Anne, wife of John Whitenell, which dispute was adjourned from last Taunton Sessions,—that the said child shall remain settled at Walton until next General Sessions, when the matter is to be finally determined, and that in the meantime the overseers of Marston shall pay to those of Walton 2s. a week for the relief of the said child.

9. Declaration,—on hearing the constables of the hundred of Northpetherton and Mr. Maurice Ceely, Deputy Recorder of Bridgewater, in regard to the refusal of the Mayor of Bridgewater to pay the town's proportion (18s. 10d.) of the 5*l.* 4s. assessed on the hundred by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Sir George Norton and Sir Thomas Gore, Knights, and Thomas Pigott, Esq., justices, for the repair of the county bridge called Bedminster Bridge,—that the town ought to pay the said sum ; and order to the Mayor accordingly.

WELLS SESSION. 14 January, 19 Charles II. [1668.]

1. The Court desires the two justices nearest to East Pennard to settle a complaint which has been made as to the disproportion in the poor rates for the parish.

2. Admission of Thomas Jacob of East Pennard, who was maimed in the service of Charles I, to a pension of 40s. a year.

3. Order that the inhabitants of Chelton may dispose of a small, decayed cottage wherein Sarah Martin, a poor maid of the parish, about 10 years old, who has for 2 years been wholly

at the charges of the parish, has an estate for one life, towards her maintenance.

4. Declaration that the presence of Philip Tolman of the parish of Stocklinch in the parish of Southpetherton, whither he has lately come and been duly disturbed, shall not be interpreted as a settlement of him there, unless [good cause be shewed] by the parishioners of Stocklinch at the next General Sessions.

5. Order that Frances Crynne of Spaxton, widow, who lately married William Gill of Stogursey (lately deceased) and has come with her 4 children to settle at Stogursey, shall be settled at Spaxton unless the parishioners thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions ; the said parishioners having complained that no notice was given them to shew cause against a similar order formerly made by Peregrine Palmer, Esq., justice.

6. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Upton Noble and Cloford, for the settlement of Anne Martin at Cloford ; as it appears that she moved from Upton to Cloford and remained there about 6 weeks without disturbance, and was afterwards, on becoming a lunatic, removed to Evercreech by the consent of some of the chief inhabitants of Cloford, but only to be cured of her distemper.

7. On complaint by the parishioners of Wollavington that some of the parishioners refuse to pay their proportions to a rate for the hospitals and other purposes ; the Court desires William Bull, Esq., justice, to examine the said rates, and if he sees cause, to join with the nearest justice in confirming them and giving order for payment.

8. Order to the treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 5*l.* to Thomas James, governor of the hospital at Langporte.

9. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay the pensioners 5s. each for this Sessions, *i.e.* half their quarter's pay, and no more.

10. Admission of Philip Rawbone of Stogursey to a pension of 40s. yearly in the room of Richard Martin, deceased.

11. Order, — on hearing a dispute between the parishes of Butleigh, co. Somerset, and Meere, co. Wilts, touching the settlement of Thomas Honnyball and his wife, and on reading an order of Edward Hide and William Willoughby, Esquires, justices in Wilts, ordering them to be conveyed to Butleigh, —for the conveyance of Honnyball and his wife from Butleigh to Meere, where it appears that they were last lawfully settled.

12. Confirmation of an order by Francis Poulet and John Hall, Esquires, justices, whereby Robert Steele with his wife and child, who had intruded themselves into the parish of St John's, Glaston, but were not settled there, were ordered to be conveyed to St Mary's, Shrewsbury, where they were last settled. Since the said order the wife has had a second child and Still (*sic*) has been taken to the county gaol for debt.

13. The Court desires Thomas Pigott, John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, to make order for the maintenance of the base child of Mary Hooper, the reputed father being Thomas Heale, servant of Jeremy Feare of the parish of Winscombe.

14. Order that John Martin of South Barrow do forthwith pay 40s. to the overseers of the said parish towards the binding out of Simon Shene, whom he refused to take as an apprentice, and that for that payment he shall be discharged of taking any apprentice until Shene be 24 years old.

15. On reading an order by Henry Rogers and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the base child of Adry

Ceely of North Currey, whereof Thomas Andrewes is the reputed father, and on information that Adry was never punished for her offence ; the Court desires Mr. Court, if the said information be true, to deal with Adry according to law.

16. The Court desires the justice nearest to the hundred of Taunton and Taunton Deane to swear Thomas Willy of Otterford to execute the office of constable of the hundred for this year, and if he refuses, to bind him over to answer his contempt at the next General Sessions.

17. Reference to William Helyar, Esq., justice, of a dispute between Mr. John Eastmond and Anthony Goodson, collector of Excise, for final settlement.

18. Request to the justice nearest to the hundred of Canington to swear Mr. John Blake of Overstowey to execute the office of constable of the hundred, and if he refuses, to deal with him according to law ; as John Burland of Stogursey, who was bound over to this Sessions for refusing to execute the office, has shewn that he is a lieutenant in a militia company of the county and in Col. George Stawell's regiment, and therefore cannot act as constable.

ILCHESTER SESSION. 31 March, 20 Charles II. [1668.]

Presentment of the Grand Jury, 31 March, 1668 :—

We present that by the watering of flax this last year the river running from Yeovell to Ivelchester and downwards was very much annoyed, to the destruction of fish and great prejudice of the neighbouring inhabitants for the necessary use of themselves and their cattle.

Order thereon :—

The Court desires Mr. John Browne of Ivelchester to enquire as to offenders in the matter, and to give a note of their names at the next General Sessions, and to cause some persons to be bound over to prosecute.

1. Appointment of John S^t Albon of Alfoxon, Esq., to be treasurer for the maimed soldiers in place of John Cridland, gentleman ; and request to Henry Walrond and Roger Bourne, Esquires, justices, to take the late treasurer's account.

2. Appointment of George Powell of Taunton, gentleman, to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division in place of William Hilliard, Esq. ; and request etc. as above.

3. Appointment of Robert Plympton of Shepton Mallet, gentleman, to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division in place of Robert Jeanes, gentleman ; and request etc. as above.

4. Order that the rates of wages fixed at this Sessions shall remain in force until further order. The sheriff is to have them proclaimed in open market in all cities and market towns.

5. Presentment of the Grand Inquest as to wages for labourers and others for next year :—

As above [*p.* 13] ; except that items 7, 11, 13, 15 and 20 are reduced 2*d.*, and items 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 18 are reduced 1*d.*

6. Account of Robert Jeanes of East Pennard, gentleman, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1667.

Receipts, 110*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*

Payments, 112*l.* 15*s.*

7. Order by Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base female child of Mary Griffin of Midlezoy ; Christopher Dobyn of Midlezoy, husbandman, being the reputed father. 23 March, 1667-8.

8. Order by John Turberville and Edward Court, justices, touching the maintenance of Joan, bastard child of Mary Hurstone of North Curry ; William Scorse of Martock being the reputed father. 6 March, 1667-8.

9. Order of court reducing the weekly maintenance payable under the above order from 1s. 4d. to 1s.

10. Order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, touching the maintenance of a bastard child of Charity Stacy of Dinington, widow ; John Stovard of Misterton, son of John Stovord of Dinington, being the reputed father. 25 March, 1668.

11. Order, on a dispute between the parish of Winseham and the liberty of Chardland, for the settlement of Dorothy Baker at Chardland, where she was settled with Mrs. Hellyer from Midsummer to Christmas last without disturbance.

12. Order that the parishes of Bishopps Lyddeard and Charlinch do come to the next Sessions with their counsel and witnesses, so that the dispute between them touching the settlement of John Goffe may be finally determined ; neither parish having come provided to this Sessions.

13. Order that the 5*l*. which was ordered at last Wells Sessions to be paid to Thomas James, governor of Langport hospital, be paid instead to Henry Walrond, Esq., who is desired to employ the same in repairing the hospital.

14. On reading a petition of John Hardman of Taunton St James, serge-weaver, shewing that Robert Jones, his apprentice, has several times run away from his service, and is now returned to the said parish ; the Court discharges Hardman of his recognisance to answer at this Sessions for not receiving Jones, and orders that Jones be sent to the House of Correction at Taunton for a fortnight and afterwards be returned to his master.

15. Order for the settlement of Frances Crynne and her four children at Spaxton ; as the inhabitants of the said parish have failed to shew cause against an order made at Wells Sessions last [*p*. 40].

16. Admission of John Maye of Ivelchester, who faithfully served his late Majesty as a lieutenant of Horse and is now become indigent, to a yearly pension of 40s., in the room of Thomas Wornell, deceased.

17. On reading an Order in Council dated 11 March referring to the justices of the county the consideration of a complaint by the parish of Merryott in the hundred of Crewkerne that, whereas the parishioners of Misterton in the same hundred, by false suggestions and "for the easing of their parish in all public taxes and laying the same upon the parishioners of Merryott," obtained from the Council a reference of their petition to the commissioners for assessing the Royal Aid in the county, and some of the commissioners met at Crewkerne and transmitted an order thereon, with the approbation of both parishes, to the next General Sessions, nevertheless the said parishioners of Misterton "declared the said order" and in October, 1677, obtained another letter to the commissioners, two of whom, in the absence of the others and without any survey given in by the present petitioners, determined the matter and gave out that before the next public payment they would alter the ancient rates of Merryott; the Court, on the evidence on oath of Daniel Langdon that both parishes have paid equally towards all rates for 50 years and more (except for about three-quarters of a year during the late troubles), finally orders that the rates of both parishes as to all public payments shall henceforth be paid equally according to the ancient and wonted rates of the parishes.

18. The Court desires Mr. Robert Plimpton, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, and Mr. Robert Jeanes, the late treasurer, to view and report on the defects of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet.

19. Order that all pensioners of the county do appear at the next General Sessions for inspection, to the end that those who are able in estate or body to maintain themselves

may be left out of the list of maimed soldiers ; as the yearly payment for the relief of the maimed soldiers is very high and burdensome to the county, and the Court is informed that many of them are able to support themselves.

20. Reference to Sir George Trevillian, Bart., Peregrine Palmer, Esq., and Angel Grey, Esq., justices, of the case of Mr. John Galpen of Ashpryors, who was bound over by Mr. Grey for being present, with others, at a conventicle at Overstowye ; and request to them to deal with the said persons according to law.

21. Recommendation to the three justices nearest to the parish of Winseford of a petition of Nicholas Kitchen of Felton in the said parish ; and request to them to compose the differences mentioned therein or else report to the next General Sessions.

22. Order to Alice, wife of Stephen Clothier, to return to her husband and cohabit with him ; and request to Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, to deal with her according to law if she refuses. Mr. Hunt is also to obtain security from Clothier for the peaceable living of Alice.

23. The Court desires Sir Hugh Smith and Sir Thomas Gore, Knights, and Thomas Piggott, John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, to make an order touching the maintenance of a base child of Mary Hooper, the reputed father being Thomas Heale of Winsecombe, servant of Jeremy Feare of Winscombe.

TAUNTON SESSION. 14 July, 20 Charles II. [1668.]

1. Order,—on complaint that the order of Ilchester Sessions last touching the pensioners has not been carried out, as no notice thereof was given to the pensioners,—that the pensioners

in the hundreds of Horethorne, Norton Ferris, Glaston Twelve Hides, Northpetherton and Brewton be paid their pensions for last quarter, but must appear for inspection at the next General Sessions, and that such pensioners as are now at this Sessions left out of the list of maimed soldiers shall receive ros. each for last quarter.

2. Admission of George Knight of Taunton Magdalen, husbandman, who fought and was wounded for Charles I., to a pension of 40s. a year.

3. The like for Christopher Strange of Milverton.

4. The like for Alexander Morris of Munckton Combe.

5. On a complaint by Christopher Wilkins of Wyvelscombe that the churchwardens and overseers will not afford him the relief he needs by reason of an infirmity in his eyes; the Court desires John Turberville, Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to convene the said churchwardens and overseers and allow Wilkins such weekly payment as they think fit.

6. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Bishoppys Lyddeard and Charlinch, for the settlement of John Goffe at Charlinch, unless the inhabitants thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

7. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Stogursey and Canington, for the settlement of Anne Venn, infant daughter of Roger Venn of Canington, deceased, at Canington, unless etc. as above.

8. It appearing that Richard Shephard of Worle, who had a good estate in trust for Samuel Conaway, an infant who is likely to become chargeable at Banwell, has fully administered the estate, and that one Dorvall of Eastpennard, the infant's grandmother, may be unable to provide for him; the Court

orders that Shepheard be discharged, and that John Tynt, Francis Pawlet and John Hall, Esquires, justices, do examine into the widow Dorvall's estate and report thereon to the next General Sessions. In the meantime the churchwardens and overseers of Banwell are to provide for the infant.

9. Order, on a dispute between the parish of Aishill and Mr. Ambrose Moore of Bicknell, for the discharge of Moore from — Dickes, son of James Dickes, an apprentice ; as Moore has shewn that his estate is so small that he is not compellable to take the apprentice, and no one has attended the Court on behalf of the parish of Aishill.

10. Order that the churchwardens and overseers of Taunton Magdalen do pay henceforth to Richard Gyles of Taunton, an infirm person, 3s. weekly for his relief until further order ; they having neglected to carry out a former order to the like effect.

11. Order to the treasurer of the hospital of the Western Division to pay at the next General Sessions to Mr. Smyth, keeper of the county gaol, 48s. which he has disbursed on repairing the gaol.

12. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals to pay to Richard Denselow, late keeper of the county gaol, the balance of the 12*l.* 7*s.* which they were ordered at last Taunton Sessions to pay him [*p.* 34] ; as only half the said sum has yet been paid.

13. On a petition setting forth that Joan Edwards, before her marriage with William Edwards of Oakeford, co. Dorset, had a considerable estate in lands and goods, which her husband by his immoderate and inordinate living has conveyed away, sold and wasted, except 4 acres of arable lands and a dwelling house, and that her husband has now left her with a young infant without making provision for their maintenance, so that they are likely to become chargeable to the parish of

Gregory Stoke; the Court orders Christopher Pettybones, Margaret Staple, widow, and Thomas Lea, all of the said parish, to whom the 4 acres have been leased by Edwards, to pay their rents to Joan. The nearest justice is desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any of the above tenants who refuses to obey this order.

14. Order by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Thomas Gore, Knt., and Thomas Pygott, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Mary Hooper; the reputed father being Thomas Heale, servant of Jeremy Feare of the parish of Winsecombe.

15. Order that the goods belonging to [John] Hubert, an infant likely to become chargeable at [Chewton], which are in the possession of Francis Wilcox of —, be delivered over to Frances Wilcox of Chewton Mendip, widow, grandmother of the infant, who offers to maintain the child as long as she can; and request to the nearest justice to bind Francis over to the next Sessions if he refuses. Meanwhile payment of 2s. weekly for maintenance of the child is to be taken off and discharged.

16. Order for the removal of James Forehead and Mary, his wife, from Stoake Trester to Gillingham, co. Dorset; as it appears that he was legally settled for 12 months and more at Burton in Gillingham, and from thence came to Cloford, whence he was removed to Bayford in Stoake Trester, where it was supposed he was last settled, and that he has been legally disturbed by Stoake.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 6 October, 20 Charles II. [1668.]

1. The Court, on complaint that the excessive buying and malting of barley by maltsters of the county enhances the price thereof beyond the means of poor people, orders that only those persons who have barley of their own growth, or tithe

corn or rent corn, and those already licensed, shall malt any barley (except for their own use) without a licence under the hands of two justices, one of whom must be of the *Quorum*, and that no licensed maltster shall buy any barley for malting except in public markets, or malt any barley except as allowed by his license, and that any justice who is notified of a breach of this order shall bind over the offender to the next General Sessions.

2. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Lydeard and Charlinch, for the settlement of John Goffe at Charlinch.

3. Order, on a dispute between the inhabitants of Westbagborow and Simon Richards, that Richards be discharged of Eleanor Day, his apprentice, and that George Chave, son of William Chave of the parish of Westbagborow, be apprenticed to him instead.

4. It appearing that the parish of Bromfeild has for more than a year neglected to provide a house for Nicholas Curle, and that the overseers there refuse to pay the rent of 20s. which they were ordered to pay to Mr. Thomas Towills for a house to which Curle was temporarily removed [*see p. 34*], and that Mr. Towills' estate adjoining the said house suffers much from the ill neighbourhood of Curle's family, the tenant thereof having lost divers goods since Curle inhabited the house ; the Court orders the churchwardens and overseers of Bromfeild to pay Mr. Towills 20s. rent on demand and provide another house for Curle before Christmas next. If any of the said parties refuse obedience to this order, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next Quarter Sessions.

5. Order that the order of last Taunton Sessions touching the settlement of Anne Venn at Canington be made absolute unless the inhabitants of Canington shew better cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions than they have shewn at this. The said inhabitants are to have sight of the register

of Stogursey and take a copy out of it, as evidence of Anne's age.

6. Order, by consent of all the parties, that a dispute between William Sealy and Henry Nicholls, clerk, touching Mr. Nicholls having persuaded his son, Thomas, to leave Katharine, his wife, Sealy's daughter, be referred for settlement to Sir William Windham, Knt., and John Turberville, Esq., justices.

7. Order that William Munckton do pay to the overseers of Yeovell, for refusing the office of overseer there, 6*l.* in moieties by 16 October inst. and 25 December next. The nearest justice is to commit him to the county gaol if he neglects or refuses to pay.

8. On reading an order of last Taunton Sessions touching the maintenance of John Hulbert, an infant [*p.* 49], and it appearing that the parish of Chewton has had the maintenance of the child for several weeks ; the Court orders that Frances Wilcox, the child's grandmother, do pay the overseers the arrears of the cost of such maintenance, at the rate of 2*s.* a week, until she receives the child into her care, and that if the overseers, on payment of the said moneys, do not deliver the child to her, the child shall be kept at their charges. The goods of the child are to be dealt with in accordance with the previous order.

9. Order by Sir William Windham and John Malett, justices, touching the maintenance of William, a base child of Joan Olliver of Culbone, single woman ; the reputed father being Elias Falvey of Culbone, clerk. Dated 20 July, 1668.

10. Order by Robert Hunt and John Cary, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Susan Dovell, single woman, born at Barton David ; the reputed father being John Allen of Barton David. Dated at Compton Pauncefoote, 21 January, 1667-8.

11. Order by the same touching the maintenance of a base child of Mary Haggett, single woman, born at Somerton; the reputed father being Robert Hill of West Pennard, yeoman. Dated at Compton Pauncefoote, 28 April, 1668.

12. Order to the treasurer for the hospitals of the Western Division to pay Thomas James, keeper of the hospital at Langport, 50s. for maintenance of the poor of the hospital.

13. Order to the treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay Hercules Whiteinge 5*l.* disbursed on repairing the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett.

14. Order that William Cookesley, the elder, of Wellington, be sworn constable of the hundred of Kingsebery West in place of George Pyle.

15. Admission of Matthew Addams of Dunstar, labourer, who was wounded in the service of Charles I, to a pension of 40s. yearly.

16. The like for Charles Bartlett of Somerton.

17. The like for John Jellett of Northpetherton.

18. The like for Richard James of Fivehead.

19. The like for William Streate of Overstowye.

20. The like for John Hawkes of Stogumber.

21. Ordered that Joseph Edwardes of Kingstone do continue his pension of 40s. as formerly.

22. Ordered that Lieutenant John Griffith be continued a pensioner and receive 4*l.* yearly as formerly.

23. On a certificate made by John Tynt, Esq., justice, in accordance with an order made at last Taunton Sessions [p. 47], to the effect that the overseers of Banwell cannot prove that the widow Dorvall is able to maintain Samuel Connaway ; and on complaint by Thomas Pether of Congersbury that the said overseers will not pay him 3*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* long due to him with unpaid arrears for maintaining the said Samuel for several years : the Court orders that the overseers pay Pether the said sum, with arrears at the rate of 6*l.* a year, and make weekly payment to him at the same rate so long as Samuel remains in his keeping.

24. On the petition of Christopher Shattocke of Northpetherton, husbandman, shewing that he, being destitute of a house for himself, his wife and 6 small children, has erected a cottage on the waste or common called Kingskift in the said parish near the lands of Sir William Portman, Knt. and Bart.; the Court, on reading a licence by Sir William, who is lord in fee of that part of the common, for the erection and continuance of the cottage, orders that the cottage be continued as Shattocke's habitation for 60 years, if he live so long, and that he be discharged of all penalties in connection therewith.

25. On complaint by several pensioners that they cannot get their pensions from the treasurer ; the Court orders Mr. Lewis, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, to continue to make payments until further order to all pensioners not discharged by order of Court.

26. On complaint by several persons living in and about Bradford that the moneys collected for the repair of Tone and Heele Bridges are in private hands and have not been used as directed by the Court, and on an allegation by Mr. Richard Jeane and Mr. William, in whose hands it was conceived the moneys were, that the moneys are still in the hands of several constables ; the Court orders all such constables to pay the sums remaining in their hands, at or before next Sessions,

to the said William Jeane and John Brewford of Bradford, and desires the nearest justice to bind over to the next General Sessions any who refuse or neglect to do so.

27. Order,—on a dispute as to the alteration of payments to the Houses of Correction at Shepton Mallet and Ivelchester, —that the Clerk of the Peace at next General Sessions produce the ancient books for the 20 years before 1642, so that the Court may be satisfied touching such alteration.

28. The Court, taking notice that Roger Hart of Ashbittle was bound apprentice to John Crosse, who assigned him to Robert Stone, and that Stone was convicted at last Taunton Sessions on 14 July last of thieving, and was burnt in the hand, the most material witness against him being Hart, and fearing the danger that Hart may come to, either by the hard usage or evil example of Stone, orders that Hart's indentures with Stone or Crosse be delivered up to some of the parish of Ashbittle and become void, and that Hart, (who is now at this Sessions produced as a material witness against Thomas Toots, a confederate with Stone), be bound apprentice for the remainder of his time to Robert Caporne, who, on an order made at last Sessions, received, kept and clothed him; and also orders that Stone repay to Caporne all or most of the 4*l*. he received from Crosse with Hart, and any other moneys so received, to be kept as a stock without interest for the use and encouragement of Hart when he leaves his apprenticeship.

WELLS SESSION. 12 January, 20 Charles II. [1669.]

1. Presentments of the Grand Inquest :—

- (a) The highway from Shepton Mallett to Bruton near Milton Bridge is in decay and dangerous; rails should be set up on the sides of the bridge.
- (b) The bridge called Stoodley Bridge in the tithings of Worminster and Northwootton is in decay and should be railed on both sides.

- (c) The bridge called Rodford Bridge between Wells and Bath is in decay, and should be mended by the parishes of Midsomer Norton, Camerton and Timsebery.
- (d) A conventicle of Quakers is called at the house of Thomas Parsons in the parish of Portshead every month on a Wednesday.
- (e) George Day of Glastonbury keeps a conventicle on Sundays in his malthouse.
- (f) Thomas Dowdey of Eastpennard, carpenter, for "dickinge" and making a sawpit in the highway.
- (g) The same, for casting up a bank athwart the highway.
- (h) Edward Cary of Baltonsbury, for taking up a bridge and stile leading out of the south wood of Baltonsbury, which is a common highway, and for taking up another bridge and stile leading into Catsham gate, which is a common highway.

Tho. Cloose } Jurors in
Jo. Higgins } Court.

2. On complaint that several clothiers fraudulently stretch woollen cloth in the county, that several persons have neglected to breed and rear young 'bease' and cattle, and that some persons do daily engross and take up fowls, so that there is a scarcity of victual, which is likely to increase; the Court desires all justices to do their utmost against the said abuses, and to present at the next General Sessions two or four persons to be triers of woollen cloth and to remedy the other abuses. The sheriff is to cause this order to be published in all market towns on market day.

3. Order that all persons who were bound over to give evidence against accused persons and did not appear, so that the accused were acquitted on their traverses, be bound over to the next General Quarter Sessions to answer for their offence.

4. Reference to John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by Dorothy Phelpes of St Cuthbert's, Wells, that John Phelpes, her late husband, employed Mr. John Day, an attorney-at-law, to sue William Vaughan for moneys due to him, and that Day compounded with Vaughan without Phelpes' knowledge, and received the moneys, but would not give any part of it to Phelpes or the complainant. They are to bind Day over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to obey their award.

5. Confirmation of an order by John Cary and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, touching the removal of John Hillard and his wife from Ditchett to the parish of Yarleington, where he was last legally settled ; and order that they be absolutely settled at Yarleington.

6. The aforesaid order of removal. Dated 4 January, 1668-9.

7. Order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helliard, Esq., justices, for the conveyance of Nicholas Weecke and his wife from Yeavell to Langport, where they were last legally settled. Dated, 1 September, 1668.

8. Confirmation of the above order ; and order that Weeck and his wife be absolutely settled at Langport.

9. Order by Robert Hunt and John Cary, Esquires, justices, for the removal of William Addams and Anne, his wife, from Babcary to Barton Davy, where they were last legally settled. Dated 22 September, 1668.

10. Confirmation of the above order ; and order etc. as above.

11. Order that the churchwardens and overseers of each parish do present once a month to the justices a note in writing

upon oath of the names of those that shall absent themselves from their several churches and chapels, or that, being present, shall not reverently demean themselves; and request to the justices to issue warrants for levying on every such person such sums for the use of the poor of the various parishes as are provided by statute. In case of neglect or refusal by the churchwardens and overseers to carry out this order, the justices are to bind them over to the next General Sessions. The sheriff is to cause publication of this order to be made in every parish church and chapel on some Lord's Day immediately after divine service.

12. Order that William Selfe of Dilton, co. Wilts, who has a yearly estate of 100*l.* in the county, do pay 2*s.* weekly to the overseers of Shepton Mallet towards the maintenance of his daughter, the wife of Thomas Huntley of Shepton Mallet, and her two children; the said Huntley having been imprisoned for clipping money and his father being a poor man and unable to maintain them.

13. On complaint by the inhabitants of the city or borough of Wells that Robert Canington, bailiff of the city, retains in his hands the 73*l.* levied from them by the Collector of the Greenwax by process out of the Court of Exchequer for not repairing the highways of the city, which ought to have been paid over to the churchwardens for that purpose; the Court orders Canington to pay over the said sum, and on his refusal Francis Poulett and John Hall, Esquires, justices, are desired to commit him to gaol.

14. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 50*s.* to Thomas James, keeper of the hospital at Langport.

15. Order to Mr. George Brooke to pay 5*l.* out of the public moneys in his hands to Lewis Dadscombe of Brushford; as it appears by an order of Bridgewater Sessions, 18 Charles II,

that Dadscombe paid 10*l.* levied on him by the Collector of the Greenwax by virtue of a process out of the Court of Exchequer against the inhabitants of the county.

16. Order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and John Harrington, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of Joshua, a bastard child of Edith Panton of the parish of Swanseweeke; the reputed father being William Morley of the same parish, thatcher. Dated 24 November, 1668.

17. On reading the above order and on information that Morley is too poor to maintain the child, the Court orders the overseers of Swansweeke to pay 1*s.* 6*d.* a week to Richard Panton, the child's grandfather, until the child be 12 years old. If they refuse, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

18. Upon complaint by Mr. Stephen Dodington, late undersheriff of the county, that he has paid 6*l.* 6*s.* to poor prisoners of the King's Bench and Marshalsey, being exhibition money for 3 years ending at Midsummer last; the Court orders the treasurer of the Western Division to pay him 3*l.* 3*s.* thereof.

19. A like order to the treasurer of the Eastern Division.

20. On a petition from Thomas Howse of Compton Martin, John Allin of Chewstoke and John Baker of Berrington, husbandmen, shewing that John Sledge and Robert Jones, bailiffs of Sir George Horner, Knt., late high sheriff, levied from them 8*l.*, part of 10*l.* estreated on the inhabitants of the county for non-appearance at the Summer Assizes in 17 Charles II; the Court orders that the said sum be raised by an equal rate on the said three parishes, and paid to the petitioners.

21. Order that Anne Venne, daughter of Richard Venne of Canington, deceased, be absolutely settled at Stogursey; as the inhabitants of Canington, in accordance with an order

made at Bridgewater Sessions last, have shewn good cause against her being settled there, and no one has appeared on behalf of Stogursey.

Note.—Anne Ven was born 9 June and baptised 27 [June], 1660, at Stogursey, as appears by the register examined 8 October, 1668, by William Jeane.

22. Reference to Francis Poulett and John Hall, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by John Wythe of Glaston, husbandman, that his father, John Wythe, being in trouble for debt, entrusted to John Meade, his son-in-law, real and personal estate to the value of 2000*l.*, and that Meade conveyed the father away to an obscure place in Wales, failed to recall him or give him notice that his troubles were over, and seized his estate and converted it to his own use, so that the petitioner, being in great want, was constrained to deliver up to Meade's confederates a bond for 600*l.* which he had against Meade for the restoration of his estate; and that the father, on his return, laid a suit in Chancery against Meade, and after a hearing and a decree, died, leaving the petitioner as his executor, and that the petitioner is likely to become chargeable at Glaston since Meade keeps his estate from him. If they cannot settle the matter, the said justices are to certify the true state of the case at the next General Sessions.

23. On a dispute between the inhabitants of North Cadbury and Stephen Clothier of that place touching the maintenance of the latter's child, who is likely to become chargeable, and on proof that Clothier's wife has left him and gone to live with her father, Henry Pytman, who has a considerable estate but refuses to give relief towards the maintenance of the child; the Court orders that Clothier and Pitman do pay 6*d.* and 2*s.* a week respectively to the overseers of North Cadbury for the maintenance of the child.

24. Order that the following persons be restored to their yearly pensions of 40*s.*, viz., Francis Bridle of Shepton Mallet,

Stephen Price of Hinton St George, George Ilett of Wells Forum, Jeremiah Hickes of Bedminster, John Cooke of Bathe, Edward Lewis of the same, John Polsham of the same, Richard Freeman of Charterhouse Hinton, George Blacker of Clutton, Thomas Curtis of Shepton Mallett, Philip Barber of Clutton and John Cox of East Pennard.

25. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay Gabriel Hixe 40s. as arrears of his pension for last year, and the same amount yearly henceforth.

26. The like order for Robert Kerle.

27. Admission of Sidrack Gillett of Whitchurch, who was wounded in the service of Charles I, to a pension of 40s. a year.

28. The like for Robert Cromwell of Combehay.

29. The like for John Pitts of Moorelinch.

30. The like for Richard Robertes of Mounton Combe.

31. Order that all pensioners in the hundreds of Williton Freemanours, Brewton and Whitstone appear at the next General Sessions for inspection, as several of them are said to be able-bodied and capable of maintaining themselves. Mr. Lewis, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, is required to give notice of this order to the constables of the said hundreds.

32. Appointment of Robert Hunt and Francis Wyndham, Esquires, justices, to view and control the estreats to issue out of the County Court for last year.

IVELCHESTER SESSIONS. 21 April, 21 Charles II. [1669.]

1. Account of George Powell of Wilton, gentleman, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, for 1668.

Receipts, 75*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.*

Payments, 73*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*

2. Account of Robert Plimpton of Shepton Mallet, gentleman, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1668.

Receipts, 110*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*

Payments, 108*l.* 10*s.*

3. Appointment of Richard Churchey of Winecaunton, gentleman, to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division in place of Robert Plympton; and request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Peter Roynon, Esq., justices, to take the late treasurer's account. The present treasurer is not to employ as deputy or substitute any one who has been deputy to a treasurer during the last 2 years.

4. The like appointment of Mr. Thomas Gatchell of Classey to be treasurer for the Western Division, in place of Mr. George Powell.

5. The like appointment of Richard Hipesley, Esq., of Stone Easton, to be treasurer of the maimed soldiers in place of John St Albin, Esq.

6. Rates for wages set by the Grand Jury:—

As above [*p.* 43]; except that items (13) and (14) are omitted, item (12) is rated at 6*d.*, and items (19) and (20) are merged in one item as follows—Mowing an acre of grass or hay, 1*s.* 4*d.*

7. On complaint that several persons have procured writs of *Ne ponend'* exempting them from jury service, although they

are not infirm or 70 years old ; the Court orders the sheriff to make a return to the respective justices of all exempted persons in their divisions, so that the justices may examine what persons are entitled to such writs.

8. On reading an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Peter Roynon and John Buckland, Esquires, justices, touching the removal of Nicholas Wathell, the base child of Joan Wathell of Winsecombe, deceased, from Keynsham to Winsecombe ; the Court orders that Nicholas be kept at Winsecombe until further order, and that both parishes come to the next General Sessions for determination of the matter, as the parish of Keinsham is not now provided with witnesses, having had no notice given them.

9. Order for the removal of Maximilian Stone with his wife and children from Westbradley to East Lidford, and for his absolute settlement at the latter place, in accordance with an order made at Taunton Sessions, 1659, to the effect that, if he should become chargeable at Westbradley (as he now is), he should be settled at East Lidford. If the churchwardens or overseers of East Lidford refuse obedience to this order, the nearest justice is to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

10. On a petition by John Baber of Blagdon, one of the constables of the hundred of Winterstoke, stating that John Pearce, his fellow constable, is lately dead, and that Richard Symons of Churchhill is a suitable successor ; the Court orders the nearest justice to swear Symons as constable, and if he refuses the office, to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

11. Licence for Joseph Dix of Emborow to erect a cottage on the waste of the manor of Emborow, and hold it for 60 years, its subsequent disposal being regulated by statute ; in pursuance of a petition from the inhabitants of Emborow and a grant under the hand and seal of Richard Hipplesley, lord of the manor.

12. It appearing by the oath of Thomas Bennet of Wells that John Hereford, who was formerly ordered by the justices to be removed from Brewton to the city of Hereford, has land of inheritance in Hereford of the clear yearly value of 40*l.* and is now employed as an under-officer of Excise in this county; the Court orders that the former order be continued, and that Hereford be removed in accordance therewith as soon as his said employment ceases.

13. On complaint by the inhabitants of the parishes of Timsbury, Camerton and Midsomer Norton that Radford Bridge, lying on a great road leading from Froome to Bristol and from Bath to Wells, is in absolute need of speedy repair, but that it cannot be made clear who should repair it; the Court desires Sir William Bassett, Knt., and John Harrington, Warwick Bampfild and John Buckland, Esquires, justices, to enquire from some ancient persons living near the bridge who ought to repair it, and to report at the next General Sessions.

14. Request to Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to hear and determine a complaint by William Gullet and John Gullet that the churchwardens and overseers of Curry Mallet have not paid the 3*s.* 2*d.* weekly which their predecessors, (Jeremy Meade and Philip Bawler, churchwardens, and Richard Boby and Philip Norris, overseers), agreed to pay to the complainants for maintaining the three children of Elizabeth Howse of Curry Mallett, deceased, although they have kept and maintained the said children from 8 April, 1668, to 8 April of this year.

15. Request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Edward Phelipps and William Hellyar, Esquires, justices, to provide for the legal settlement in some parish of Robert Stevens, who, being turned out of Lymington, went to Coscombe, co. Dorset, "where he was disturbed, and could not get any place wherein quietly to inhabit, by reason whereof he lived an idle life." Stevens is to remain in prison until the said justices settle him.

16. Confirmation of an order by Francis Poulet and John Hall, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Thomas Baker from West Cranmoore to Wanstrowe ; and order for his settlement at the latter place.

17. On a certificate by the justices to whom the complaint of John Wythie of Glaston against John Meade of Streete was referred at Wells Sessions last [*p.* 59] that they find the said complaint to be materially true, and that, although they have tried to persuade Meade to put a period to the said troubles or else allow Wythie some weekly maintenance, he is utterly refractory to all good advice and honest intentions, and refuses to obey their most reasonable proposals ; the Court orders that the said dispute be referred back to the said justices for hearing and determination, and desires them, if they find that Wythy is in any way chargeable to the parish of Glaston and that Meade will not obey their proposals, to bind Meade over to the next General Sessions.

18. Certificate that Richard Stradlinge, worsted-comber, has discharged the parish of Milverton against his bastard child by Mary Anton of Milverton becoming chargeable to the parish. Witnessed by William Granger, vicar, Joseph Dyer and William Staddon, churchwardens, and William Jenckins, Thomas Stone, Thomas Wade and Ro. Pyle, junior, overseers. Dated, 22 March, 1668.

19. Order by Peregrine Palmer and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of George, a base child of George Barter, vicar of Lynge, by Joan Wilkins of the same. Dated, 6 April, 1669.

20. Order by Edward Hungerford and Warwick Bampfild, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard child of Mary White of Nunney, widow ; the reputed father being William Grymes of the same parish, husbandman. Dated 19 April, 1669.

21. Order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Deanes Knowles of Ashill; the reputed father being John Aplyn of Ashill. Dated 20 January, 1668-9.

22. Order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Katherine Vincent, the reputed father being John Pinny; made for the relief of the parish of Crewkerne. Dated 20 April, 1669.

Confirmed at Bridgewater Sessions, 1669.

23. Order that Thomas Burr ridge of Shepton Beauchamp be discharged of his indenture of apprenticeship with Humphrey Buckerell of Seavington Abbott, cordwainer, who has run away for debt, leaving Burr ridge unprovided for.

24. On complaint that the treasurer of the maimed soldiers refuses to pay Lieutenant John Griffith the pension of 4*l.* yearly which was continued to him at Bridgewater Sessions last, on pretence of an order that no pensioner should receive more than 40*s.* yearly; the Court orders that the said pension of 4*l.*, with arrears, be paid to Griffith, any former order to the contrary notwithstanding.

25. Order that John Shole of Ashcott, a poor man who faithfully served Charles I, be admitted again to the pension of 40*s.* yearly which he formerly received.

26. Abraham Sommers of Audry is admitted to a pension of 40*s.* yearly on a letter from the Duke of Albemarle.

27. The like orders for Angel Pryor, Cuthbert Wornell, Andrew Holt and David Hawkes.

28. Robert Peaseley of Brislington is admitted to a like pension in the place of Sidracke Gillet, on a certificate by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Thomas Piggott, Esq.

29. The like order for Jenkin Perry in the place of Walter White, deceased.

30. Account of John Lewis, under-treasurer to John St Albans of Alfoxon, Esq., for the maimed soldiers, for the year 1668.

31. On complaint by the inhabitants of the parish of Brushford that the back of a bridge called Exbridge in Brushford, which has usually been repaired by the county, is ruinous and unpassable ; the Court desires Sir William Windham, Knt. and Bart., Sir George Trevillian, Bart., Sir John Mallet, Knt., and John Turberville, Robert Hawly, William Lacy and Edward Clarke, Esquires, to survey the bridge, discover who ought to repair it, and report to the next General Sessions.

TAUNTON SESSIONS, 13 July, 21 Charles II. [1669.]

1. Report by the justices mentioned in the previous entry that Exbridge and the back thereof on the Somerset side is so ruinous that no one can travel over it, and that the river by frequent floods after rain is very dangerous, and that the stone back on the Somerset side was repaired at the charge of the county about 50 years ago and several times since, while as much of the timber work as is in Brushford has usually been repaired by the holders of 16 parts of certain lands in Brushford by a settled proportional charge, but that, before the timber work can be repaired, the back must be repaired by the county at an estimated cost of at least 170*l.*, and that the present and former decay of the bridge on the Somerset side has been caused by the decay of a weir above the bridge in some lands in Moorebath, co. Devon, lately belonging to Sir Henry Wallopp and now sold to others, which was erected for the preservation of the back of the bridge, and that unless the weir be erected there will necessarily be the greater charge for mending, keeping and repairing the bridge. It is

necessary that stones and gravel be taken in the river near the bridge. Dated 13 July, 1669.

2. Order, in pursuance of the above report, that the sheriff issue warrants to the constables of the hundreds to have the said sum of 170*l.* levied by a rate on the inhabitants, and to pay the said sum, when collected, to Mr. George Peppyn of Dulverton and Mr. Nicholas Carse of the same, who have been appointed treasurers by the Court. The Court also appoints Thomas Coleford of Dulverton, gentleman, Robert Lucas of the same, yeoman, and Peter Parsons of the same, carpenter, to be surveyors of the said works, and orders the treasurers to take security from the workmen employed that they will keep the bridge in repair for 20 years at their own costs. The Court also orders the present owners and occupiers of the said lands in Moorebath to repair the weir, on pain of being proceeded against according to law.

3. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Ditchet and Pennard touching the settlement of Thomas Walter, a blacksmith, that a case be drawn up for the opinion of the judges of Assize at the next general Gaol Delivery.

4. Case drawn up in accordance with the previous order, as follows :—

Walter, a blacksmith in Ditchett, comes to Pennard to live, as being more convenient for his trade. Pennard will not receive him without a certificate from Ditchett to take him back if he becomes chargeable. Ditchett gives such a certificate and Walter settles at Pennard after the Act of 14 Charles II. A house of 40*s.* a year in Pennard, held by lease for 5000 years, is devised by one March as follows : “Whereas I owe 8*l.* to Richard Glasse, my will is that Walter shall pay it quarterly and until it be paid Glasse shall have the lease ; and after the 8*l.* be paid, the lease shall be to the use of Alice Walter (Walter’s wife) and her children for the residue of the term.” Walter, being in debt, is cast into prison, and his wife and children

become chargeable at Pennard. Thereupon Ditchet pays the 8*l.* and sets Walter free. Afterwards Walter and his wife again become chargeable, whereupon Pennard would send them to Ditchett on the said certificate.

5. Confirmation of an order by the Rt. Hon. Maurice, Viscount Fitzhardinge, and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, for the removal of John Sheppard with his wife and children from Queene Cammell to Marston ; and order accordingly.

6. Confirmation of an order by Peregrine Palmer and Roger Bourne, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Elizabeth Taylor, singlewoman, from Thurluxton to Gregory Stoke ; and order accordingly.

7. Order for the absolute settlement of Nicholas Wathell at Winseham ; the parish of Winseham having now had time to shew cause against a previous order to the same effect [*p.* 62].

8. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Wynecaunton and Bayford, for the absolute settlement of Elizabeth Mansell at Wyncaunton, where she was born and to which she was remanded by two of the justices. If any parishioners of Wynecaunton neglect or refuse to obey this order, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

9. Mr. William Jeanes and James Bruford, who were at last Bridgewater Sessions ordered to collect certain moneys for the repair of Tone and Hele Bridges, having refused to do so ; the Court desires John Turberville, James Prowse and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to take their account, and if they have not obeyed the said order, to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

10. Order that the indentures of apprenticeship of John Stephens, son of John Stephens of North Curry, with Thomas Gould of Taunton, who has fled to Ireland for debt, leaving

his apprentice likely to become chargeable to the parish of Taunton, be delivered up to the apprentice's father, and that the apprentice be discharged from his apprenticeship.

11. Order,—on a dispute between the parishes of Westbagborowe and Runington touching the settlement of Henry Crosse with his wife and 3 small children in Runington, where they are alleged to have been last legally settled,—that both parishes come for settlement of the matter to the next General Sessions.

12. Order that the indentures of apprenticeship of Charles Paule, son of John Paule of Broadwinsor, co. Dorset, with Matthew Gaylard of Pitmister, who has run away leaving his apprentice likely to become chargeable at Pitmister, be delivered up to some of the inhabitants of Pitmister for cancellation, and that the said apprentice be discharged from his apprenticeship with Gaylard and be bound apprentice with Richard Ivery of Pitmister for 5 years.

13. Order that the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division pay to Thomas James, keeper of Langport hospital, 7*l.* 10*s.*, 5*l.* at this Sessions and 50*s.* at next.

14. Request to John Turberville, Esq., justice, to settle a dispute between William Shattock and Robert Miles, overseers of Westbagborow, and Simon Richards of Bishops Lydeard, touching the refusal of Richards to take Elizabeth Day as his apprentice ; and to bind Richards over to the next Sessions if he refuses to obey his order in the matter.

15. On complaint that a base child of Elizabeth Gyles of West Coker is likely to become chargeable to the parish of West Coker, and that Elizabeth has not yet been punished for her offence ; the Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Edward Phelipps, senior, and William Helyar, Esquires, justices, to commit her to the House of Correction for a year, with such correction as is provided by law.

16. Order by Francis Poulett and John Hall, Esquires, justices, for the maintenance of a base son of Mary Phellipps of Shepton Mallett, singlewoman; the reputed father being William Short of the same, worsted-comber. Dated 6 May, 1669.

17. Order,—on complaint that divers pensioners in the county have estates and are able to maintain themselves,—that the constables of all hundreds do examine the age, quality, estate and condition of their respective pensioners, and report at the next General Sessions, if required, and that no future pension be allowed except on motion in Court and order thereon, and that no pensioner receive his pay except from the constable of his hundred, who shall receive it from the treasurer of the maimed soldiers and give a receipt therefor. The treasurer is to give notice of this order to the several constables.

18. Admission of Thomas Crosse of Taunton St James, a poor soldier who was wounded in the service of Charles I, to a yearly pension of 40s. until further order.

19. The like for Richard Rogers of Corfe, Martin Hughes of Thorne St Margaret, William Stone of Chipstable, and George Knight of Taunton.

20. The like for Thomas Fossey of Shepton Mountague, in the place of George Stone of —, lately deceased.

21. None of the pensioners of the hundreds of Williton Freemanours, Brewton and Whitstone having appeared for inspection in accordance with the order made at last Wells Sessions; the Court revives the said order and requires them to appear at next Bridgewater Sessions. The treasurer for the maimed soldiers is to give notice of this order to the constables of the said hundreds.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 5 October, 21 Charles II. [1669.]

1. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Runington and Westbagborow, that if the parishioners of Runington can prove at the next General Sessions that the rates and taxes assessed on Henry Crosse for the messuage or tenement in Runington wherein he dwelt were paid and allowed to him, then he and his wife and children shall be absolutely settled at Westbagborow, and that otherwise he shall be absolutely settled at Runington.

2. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt., Sir John Warr, Knt., and Edward Clarke, Esq., justices, for the removal of Robert Woollacott from Bradford to Hilfarrence; and order accordingly.

3. The Court desires Sir William Basset, Knt., Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Warwick Bampfeild, Esq., justices, to take steps for the payment to Thomas Poe, John Chilton, and William Flower, surveyors of Radford Bridge, of several sums disbursed by them on the repair of the bridge, which, according to a certificate by John Cary, Maudlyn Samborne and others, was to be repaired by the inhabitants of Timsebery, Camerton and Midsomer Norton at their own charges.

4. On the refusal by the overseers of Crewkerne to accept a bond entered into by John Pinny for the observance of an order for the maintenance of his base daughter by Katharine Vincent made by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices; the Court orders that the order be confirmed, and that the bond be received and remain in the hands of the Court for the use of the parishioners of Crewkerne.

5. On complaint by the parishioners of Weston Zoyland, Midlezoey, Othery, Greynton, Ashcott, Moorelinch, Chedzoey and Northpetherton that the bridge called Burroughbridge (which is on a great travelling road) is ruinous and dangerous

for travellers ; the Court orders that the sum of 20*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, at which the cost of repairing the same is estimated, be levied by a rate on the said parishes in the proportions already agreed on between them, and that the collectors thereof pay the moneys they receive to John Bunington of Weston Zoyland, George Hooper of the same, and John Dible of Midlezoy, the treasurers appointed by the Court, that they may disburse the same for the above purpose. The following proportions are to be collected from each parish by the raters and collectors named :—

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Weston Zoyland | 5 <i>l.</i> | Richard Alford | } |
| | | Thomas Godfry | |
| Midlezoy | 3 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> | William Cary | } |
| | | Thomas Sheppard | |
| Othery | 3 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> | William Chinn | } |
| | | George Weech | |
| Greynton | 1 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> | John Clarke, junior | } |
| | | Philip Clarke | |
| Ashcott | 1 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> | William Lockyer | } |
| | | John Butler | |
| Chedzoy | 2 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> | George Parsons | } |
| | | Gregory Lyde, junior | |
| Moorelinch | 1 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> | John Bowne | } |
| | | Thomas Pawgoose | |
| Northpetherton | 1 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> | William Rickett | } |
| | | William Mitchell | |
| | | George Bisgood | |
| | | Toby Gothard | |

6. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay to Lewis Datscombe of Brushford the 5*l.* remaining unpaid of the sums levied on him by the collector of the Greenwax by process out of the Court of Exchequer.

7. Order by Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Sarah

Nutticombe of Theale in the parish of Wedmore ; the reputed father being William Councill, senior, of Theale. Dated 5 October, 1669.

8. On complaint by Thomas Spicer that certain of his goods, which were lately distrained by the collector of the Hearth Money, are now in the hands of — Foster, tithingman of Aller, and that both the collector and the tithingman have failed to appear at this Sessions in spite of being ordered to do so by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justice ; the Court orders that Foster deliver over the distrained goods to Spicer or his assigns, and desires the nearest justice to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

9. The parishioners of Ditchett not having had notice to attend this Sessions to hear the opinion of the Court on the case of Thomas Walter, a blacksmith [*p.* 67] ; the Court orders the parishioners of Pennard to give them notice to appear at the next General Sessions.

10. The Court, taking notice of the continued endeavours and designs of the city of Bath and some persons in their behalf to remove the public Sessions of the Peace from the usual places where they have been kept for many ages to the great ease, benefit and content of the inhabitants of the county, and being very sensible of the very great prejudice, inconvenience, charge and discontent any such new alteration and removal may produce, doth order and desire the members that serve in Parliament for the county to attend His Majesty, the Lord Keeper, or judges of this Circuit, as they shall think fit and see cause, to shew their reasons against such alteration or removal, and withal to desire that the General Sessions of the Peace may be held and kept in the places where they have been formerly used and accustomed to be holden and kept.

11. On a petition by the inhabitants of Taunton St James shewing that Patrick Lyall, John Lyall and Charles Lyall were

brought by pass from West Munckton and left with the tithingman of Taunton St James, their last dwelling place being Hawly Moore, co. Gloucester ; the Court orders that the Lyalls be conveyed to West Munckton, and thence from tithing to tithing and from parish to parish to Hawly Moore, 20 days and no more being allowed for their passing.

12. On complaint by William Alford of Taunton that for 13 weeks he has maintained Dorothy Holsworth, who is 'some way distracted' and was for that cause thought fit to be kept in the House of Correction, and that the churchwardens and overseers of Taunton Magdalen have failed to pay him the 3s. a week which they promised for her maintenance ; the Court orders that the said arrears be paid and that he be also paid 3s. a week so long as Dorothy remains in the House of Correction.

13. On complaint that the constables of the hundreds of Winterstocke, Bampton, Wrenton, Pitney, Wells Forum, Wello and Northpetherton have not paid their proportions towards the repair of the back of Exbridge in the parish of Brushford ; the Court orders them to pay the same to George Peppin, treasurer for the purpose, and desires the nearest justice to bind them over to the next General Assizes or Gaol Delivery, or to the next General Sessions, if they refuse. It is also ordered that the last order touching the bridge made at Ivelchester Sessions be absolutely discharged.

WELLS SESSIONS. 11 January, 21 Charles II. [1670.]

1. On complaint by Robert Hellyar of Henton, who was bound apprentice to William Tyler of the same parish, that his master is now very poor and lies in prison for some misdemeanours ; the Court orders that Hellyar be discharged from his apprenticeship unless Tyler shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

2. On complaint by some of the inhabitants of Ivelchester that part of the money raised for the repair of Ivelchester Bridge remains undisposed of in the hands of Mr. Thomas Brookes, the treasurer appointed to receive the same; the Court desires the four nearest justices to take Brookes' account and report to the next General Sessions.

3. On information that the inhabitants of Wells refuse to pay their assessments towards the repair of the county bridges on pretence that they are exempted by law; the Court declares that they ought to pay, and orders that payment be made accordingly.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Curry Rivell and Longe Sutton touching the settlement of William Addams and his wife and family, that both parishes appear at the next General Sessions with their proofs and witnesses; Long Sutton not having had notice to make their defence at this Sessions.

5. On reading an order by Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, touching the removal of William Chubb from Taunton Magdalen to Crewkerne, the Court orders that both parishes appear as above [*last entry*]; as it appears on the oath of Stephen Tymewell of Taunton that one of the most material witnesses as to Chubb's last settlement is a prisoner in Taunton Castle for debt, and cannot be present to give his testimony.

6. On a petition from some of the inhabitants of the liberty and village of Charterhowse Hydon shewing there are no church officers there for the relief of the poor, the liberty lying within no parish; the Court, in pursuance of the Act of 14 Charles II, desires Sir Hugh Smyth, K.B. and Bart., and Samuel Gorges, Thomas Piggott, John Buckland, Francis Vaughan and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, to appoint overseers etc., as above [*p. 35*].

7. Order that Thomas Walter, a blacksmith, with his wife and children, be conveyed from Pennard and absolutely settled at Ditchet. [See *pp.* 67, 73.]

8. Order that Henry Crosse with his wife and children be removed from Runington and absolutely settled at Westbagburrough. [See *p.* 71.]

9. Request to the two justices nearest to Batcombe to compose a dispute between the parishes of Batcombe and Loveington touching the settlement of Simon Sheane, who was bound apprentice in Loveington and was afterwards assigned for the remainder of his term to Philip Willton of Batcombe, who has already had relief from the parish of Batcombe so that Sheane is likely to become chargeable there; or else to report at the next General Sessions.

10. On a petition by Luke Caswell of North Cadbury shewing that Alice Clothier, wife of Stephen Clothier and daughter of Henry Pitman of Woolston in the said parish, has left her son Henry Clothier on the charge of the parish; the Court, understanding that Clothier is a poor man and Pitman a very rich one, orders Clothier to pay 1s. 6*d.* weekly until his son be 7 years old, "which if they or either of them shall refuse to do," the nearest justice is desired to deal with them according to law.*

11. Request to the two justices nearest to Babcary to cause a rate to be made in the said parish for levying 4*l.*, and to cause that sum to be paid to Daniel Creech of Walton, who has had 3*l.* 10*s.* levied on him by the collector of the Greenwax for issues returned on process out of the Court on the inhabitants of Babcary for not paying a deodand found on

* This entry is incomplete. Possibly the 1s. 6*d.* is Pitman's contribution, and Clothier's is omitted,

the death of Andrew Tylly of Babcary, and has disbursed 10s. in charges in the matter. Any persons refusing to pay are to be bound over to the next Sessions.

12. On complaint that divers persons buy oxen, runts, steers, kine, heifers, calves, sheep, lambs, goats, kids and other cattle within the terms of Stat. 5 Edw. VI. c. 14, and sell the same alive without keeping or feeding them for 5 weeks in their own houses, grounds or farm grounds, or in grounds wherein they have herbage or common of pasture by grant or prescription, and that divers persons daily engross fowls and other goods contrary to law, so that there is great scarcity in the county; the Court orders and desires that the justices in their respective divisions, (on information given them by John Browne of Ivelchester, gentleman, who is desired to endeavour to prevent the above abuses), to see that the said Statute is observed, and to bind over to the next General Sessions any who violate the same.

13. Order to George Brooke to pay to Thomas House, John Allen, Richard Baker and others, out of the county money in his hands, 8*l.* 5*s.* which was levied on them for issues on the county by John Sledge and others in the charge of Sir Hugh Smyth for not appearing at the Wells Assizes, 17 Charles II. The money is to be paid to John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, or their nominees.

14. On complaint by the parishioners of Keynsham that they were summoned by virtue of a warrant of Henry Rogers, Esq., sheriff, to answer certain presentments against them, and that, on appearing at Bridgewater Sessions last at some expense, no process was made against them, it appearing that the summons issued from Mr. George Brooke, the sheriff's deputy, without any warrant; the Court orders Brooke to pay their said expenses unless he can shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

15. Order touching absentees from church, in similar terms to that made at last Wells Sessions [*pp.* 56, 57]. Absentees are to 'suffer the penalty of the Statute in such case made and provided,' and refractory churchwardens are to be proceeded against according to law.

16. Licence, for one year, for Richard Naylor of Glastonbury to be a common "badger, lader, carrier, buyer and transporter of all manner of corn and grain" in any fair or market in the county, and to sell the same again in open fair or market, subject to the provisions of the statute against regraters and forestallers. He is not to travel with more than 4 horses, geldings or mares.

17. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, 7*l.* 15*s.* which he has laid out in repairing the said house.

18. Order that the same treasurer pay 3*l.*, and the treasurer for the Eastern Division 40*s.*, to Thomas James, governor of the hospital of Langport, for moneys laid out by him in repairing the hospital.

19. Admission of Richard Brockman of Portbury, a poor man who faithfully served Charles I in the late unhappy wars, to a yearly pension of 40*s.*

20. The like for Nicholas Thomas of Portbury, David Williams of Portbury and Richard Forrest of Eastpennard.

21. The like for John Horseman of Bathe Easton, in the place of Thomas Sellock of Duncerton, deceased.

22. The like for John Browneinge of Queene Charleton.

23. The like for John Clarke of Ashcott, in the place of John Shole of Ashcot, lately deceased.

24. The like for Peter Rawles of Glaston, in the place of James Townsend of Westpennard.

25. The like for John Lovell of East Wells, Solomon Symes of Aishcott and John Horseman of Bathe Easton.

26. The like for John Furber of Pitcombe, in the place of Philip Marsh, deceased.

27. The like for Daniel Maunsell of Keynsham, in the place of William Jones of Whitchurch.

28. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay Gabriel Hix a whole year's arrears of his pension of 40s.

29. Order for the pensioners in the hundred of Bathe Forum to appear at the next General Sessions for inspection ; as several of them are said to be able to maintain themselves. Defaulters are to lose their pensions until further order.

30. Order, by consent of all parties, that an indictment brought by Simon Tylee, Richard Combes and John Tylee against Coplestone Horton, gentleman, for stopping up a certain common highway in the parish of Woolverton, be respited until the next General Sessions, as Mr. Horton lately received a hurt by a fall from his horse and cannot now attend ; and that if he be found guilty at next Sessions, he pay the prosecutors their taxed and assessed costs in bringing their witnesses to this Sessions.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 12 April, 22 Charles II. [1670.]

1. Order, on a dispute between the parishioners of Chilthorne and Yeovell, for the removal of John Osborne and his wife from Chilthorne to Yeovill, and for their absolute settlement there in accordance with a previous order made by two justices, against which the parishioners of Yeovill allege that they have appealed, but have little else to say for themselves.

2. On a dispute between Jonathan Toogood of Henstridge and Mary Palmer, widow, Palmer alleging that any wages due were due 6 years ago and were paid by Jonathan Palmer, her husband, during his lifetime, and Toogood alleging that he thought his wages were going towards satisfaction of a debt due from Anne Toogood, his mother, to Mr. Palmer, for tithes, and did not question the matter until Mrs. Palmer sued his mother for the said tithes; the Court orders that Mrs. Palmer pay Jonathan Toogood 20s. in full satisfaction of all wages, and that the two parties give each other reciprocal releases of all actions, debts etc. against each other previous to Mr. Palmer's death.

3. Order for the absolute settlement of Nicholas Pym in the parish of Naylesey; as it appears upon the testimony of himself and Nicholas Heath that he was a covenant servant with John Twitt of Naylesey with wages of 5*l.* a year, and that he stayed there for a quarter from Michaelmas last and received his covenant money.

4. Request to the two justices nearest to Dinington to hear and determine a complaint by Charity Stacy, widow, that whereas John Stannard was ordered to pay 9*d.* weekly to the overseers of Dinington for the maintenance of his base child by her, for the last year Francis Soper, one of the said overseers and uncle to Stannard, has detained from her a quarter's pay and more, so that she cannot maintain her child, as it is very sickly and she has also to maintain her mother, who is 80 years old and has been thrown on her by Soper or others of the parishioners for relief. Any persons refusing to obey the justices' order are to be bound over to the next General Sessions.

5. Order,—with the consent of George Nevill, clerk, who has been indicted by Mr. Henry Wyatt, lord of the manor of Woolley, for erecting a cottage in Woolley and permitting William Bremble (who is likely to become chargeable to the

parish of Woolley) to dwell therein,—that Mr. Nevill remove Bremble from the cottage and only use it in future as a barn, or for some other use than habitation.

6. Order that the hearing of a dispute between the parishes of Taunton Magdalen and Crewkerne touching the settlement of William Chubb be respite^d until the next Sessions, neither parish being prepared for a final determination ; and that meanwhile Taunton Magdalen be not prejudiced by Chubb's dwelling there.

7. Order that John Girrish be absolutely discharged from his apprenticeship with Henry Davison of Freshford, with whom he has lived as an apprentice for 9 years, unless Davison shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

8. Order for the absolute settlement of William Addams, with his wife and family, at Long Sutton.

9. Order,—on a dispute between the churchwardens and overseers of North Curry and Thomas Court, gentleman, touching the non-payment of several sums disbursed by Court and others for the use of the parish,—that the present overseers, (Gregory Every, John Farmer *alias* Dirham, Arthur Twose and Thomas Keysar), remain in office for the coming year and pay the said sums so disbursed.

10. Confirmation of an order by Francis Windham and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Susanna Stacy from Wynecaunton to Shepton Mallett, and order accordingly ; no appeal having been made by Shepton Mallett.

11. On reading a report by Francis Paulett, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, shewing that they have been unable to settle the dispute between the parishes of Batcombe and Loveington touching the settlement of Simon Sheane which was referred to them at Wells Sessions last [*p.* 76] ; the Court orders that Sheane be absolutely settled at Batcombe.

12. Order that John Kerton, (a poor friendless child of Eastharptry, who was committed by the justices to the House of Correction until this Sessions for running away from his master, a Mr. John Bath of Wells, to whom he was bound apprentice for 8 years), be returned to his master's service, and that his master receive and entertain him according to law, and pay the overseers of Eastharptry 12s. which they have expended on his maintenance while he has been in the House of Correction. If Bath refuses, John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, are desired to settle the matter if they can, and to bind over to the next Sessions any who refuse to obey their orders.

13. The question of the settlement of Magdalen, wife of William Syne, having been referred to the justices at the last Assizes and general Gaol Delivery ; the Court orders that she be absolutely settled in the parish of Bromfeild, the place of her husband's last settlement ; as it appears that her husband remained without disturbance at Bromfeild for three quarters of a year in the house of Edward Poles as his hired servant by the week, and that she, during his stay at Bromfeild, first of all resided at Northpetherton and afterwards returned to Netlecombe, the place of her birth, where she was disturbed and sent back to Northpetherton by order of Sir George Trevelyian, Bart., and William Lacy, Esq., justices. Order, also, that if Bromfeild can shew cause why Netlecombe should be charged with her, they may do so at the next General Sessions.

14. On complaint by Margaret Davyes, wife of John Davyes, late of Shepton Beacham, that her husband, on account of debt, has gone away leaving her and her four small children unprovided for, and that Agnes Staddon, of Shepton aforesaid, widow, to whom an estate worth 12*l.* a year was set by her said husband, refuses to pay her the profits thereof on pretence that her husband, if he returned, might sue again for them ; the Court desires the three justices nearest to Shepton to con-

sider the matter and do what shall be thought fit and agreeable to law.

15. On complaint by Robert Oastler of Norton subter Hambdon and Joan, his wife, that the overseers of the said parish have for 12 years failed to pay Joan the interest on 20*l.* which John Taylor, her father, deposited with them for her use until she should be 21 years old, so that she is driven to great poverty; the Court orders that last year's overseers of the said parish, (Aaron Salisbury and John Pryor, junior), do pay the said sum to the present overseers, with the unpaid interest, to the end that the interest may be paid over to the complainants. In case of refusal or neglect to obey this order, the two nearest justices are desired to examine the truth of the matter, order the moneys to be deposited as above and secured for the complainants, or paid over to them if they think fit, and bind over the old overseers, if they refuse to pay the money as ordered, to the next General Sessions.

16. Order that the treasurer of the hospitals for the Eastern Division do pay to Edward Davies of Ivelchester 3*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* laid out by him on the repair of the Common Gaol of the county.

17. Order that the treasurer of the hospital of the Western Division do pay to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, 4*l.* 11*s.* disbursed by him towards the repair of the said house.

18. Order that the treasurer of the hospital of the Eastern Division do pay to Hercules Whiteinge, keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett, 5*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* disbursed by him towards the repair of the said house.

19. Admission of John Hancock of Ivelchester, who faithfully served Charles I and received much hurt in his service, to a pension of 40*s.* yearly.

20. Order made at Compton Pancfoote by Francis Windham and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Dorothy Collins, single woman, born at Yar-leington ; the reputed father being Robert Hyde of Yarleington. Dated 11 April, 1670.

21. Order by Francis Rolle, Knt., and William Bull, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Grace Martin of Woolavington, single woman ; the reputed father being John Baker of Powlett, husbandman. Dated 9 April, 1670.

22. Order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Rebecca Rawlins of Knowle, single woman ; the reputed father being William Lumbert of Chafcombe. Dated 7 April, 1670.

23. Appointment of William Symes of Pounsford, Esq., as treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, in place of Thomas Gatchell, gentleman ; and request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and James Prowse, Esq., justices, to take the late treasurer's account. The treasurer is not to employ as deputy or substitute any one who has been deputy to a treasurer during the last 2 years.

24. The like appointment of Edward Lancaster of Chedder, Esq., to be treasurer for the Western (*sic*) Division in place of Richard Churchill, Esq.

25. The like appointment of John Prowse of Axbridge, Esq., to be treasurer for the maimed soldiers in place of Richard Hipplesley, Esq.

26. Rates of wages presented by the Grand Inquest :—
As above [*p.* 61].

27. Account of Thomas Gatchell, gentleman, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, for 1669.

Receipts, 105*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

Payments, 96*l.* 17*s.* 0*d.*

Additional expenses of 5*l.* allowed by the auditors.

28. Account of Richard Churchill of Wincaunton, gentleman, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1669.

Receipts, 112*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*

Payments, 96*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*

29. Order to Mr. William Searle and John Brewford to collect from the constables of various hundreds the arrears still due from them for the repair of Tone and Hele Bridges, and to dispose thereof in accordance with former orders. If the former constables have not collected the said sums, the present constables are to collect them and pay them to Searle and Brewford. The justices are to help Searle and Brewford to see this order performed.

30. Order,—on a dispute between the parishes of Northpetherton and Durleigh touching a female child left in a straw-house some distance from the dwelling of Mr. Thomas Gatchell of Northpetherton, the father and mother being unknown and the child being alleged to have been born in Durleigh,—that the child be provided for at Northpetherton until the next General Sessions, when both parishes are to attend with their proofs and witnesses; and that, if the parishioners of Durleigh cannot then shew good cause why the child should be settled at Northpetherton, they shall pay the latter parish the cost of maintenance of the child since 16 February last, the date of an order made by Henry Rogers and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the maintenance of the child at Northpetherton.

31. Order that no new pensioners be admitted until the number of pensioners be reduced to the old proportion.

32. William Selfe of Dilton, co. Wilts, having taken advantage of his not living in the county to refuse compliance with the order made at Wells Sessions, 20 Charles II, that he should pay 2s. weekly towards the maintenance of his daughter, the wife of Thomas Huntley of Shepton Mallett, and her children, and it appearing that he has a farm of considerable value in the parish of Doltinge; the Court orders the churchwardens and overseers of Doltinge to make a rate for that amount on the said farm, the tenants and occupiers whereof are to pay the said sum to the churchwardens and overseers of Shepton Mallett for the above purpose. The nearest justices are to summon before them any who refuse to pay, and do what shall be agreeable to law and justice in the matter.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 12 July, 22 Charles II. [1670.]

1. Presentment by the Grand Jury that much of the money which was ordered to be raised for the repair of the County Bridges is still in arrear and unpaid; and recommendation that the respective receivers and surveyors be called to account touching the premises.

2. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Taunton Magdalen and Crewkerne touching the settlement of William Chubb, that Chubb be forthwith removed from Taunton and absolutely settled at Crewkerne, unless good cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

3. Order that the bastard child left in an outhouse belonging to Clawsey Farm in the parish of Northpetherton be received and provided for by the churchwardens and overseers of Durley, who are to pay 30s. for the use of the parishioners of Northpetherton towards the maintenance of the child since it was left at Clawsey Farm. [See p. 85.]

4. Discharge of an order made by Francis Poulet, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, for the removal of John Clarke from Westpennard to St Benedict's, Glaston; and order for the absolute settlement of Clarke at Westpennard.

5. Order that the parish of Bromfeild be discharged of Magdalen, wife of William Syne, and that she be absolutely settled at Netlecombe; as it appears that she lived there for several years without disturbance and was married there, and that her husband never had a place of settlement after the marriage, but lurked up and down in the country, being a person ordered to be banished for several misdemeanours.

6. Order,—on a dispute between the parishioners of Stogursey and Joan Everard of Spaxton, widow, touching the latter's refusal to take Anne Willis, a poor child of the parish, as apprentice in respect of a farm which she or her tenants enjoy in Stogursey,—that Anne be placed as an apprentice with John Crosse of Stogursey, tenant and occupier of the farm; as it appears that the owners or occupiers thereof have usually had apprentices placed on them, even though they live out of the parish.

7. Request to Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, to make a final determination of the dispute between the parishes of Chilthorne and Yeovill touching the settlement of John Osborne and his wife, or to bind over to the next General Sessions those who prevent a settlement.

8. Discharge of an order made by Sir John Strode, Knt., and William Floyer, Esq., justices of Dorset, for the removal of Elizabeth, wife of John Dennys, with her small children, from Broadwinsor, co. Dorset, to Compton Dundon, co. Somerset; and order for the absolute settlement of the said persons at Broadwinsor.

9. Reference to Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and Sir George Trevillyan, Bart., justices, of a dispute between

the parishes of Wyvelscombe and Dulverton touching the settlement of John Prescott; and request to them to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse obedience to their order.

10. Confirmation of an order by Sir Hugh Smyth, K.B., and Francis Vaughan, Esq., justices, for the removal of George Day from Burnham to Badgworth; and order accordingly.

11. On complaint by the surveyors of the highways in the parish of Taunton Magdalen that their common highways cannot be properly repaired by the laws now in force; the Court, in pursuance of an Act of Parliament in that behalf lately made, orders the surveyors to cause assessments to be made on all the inhabitants and owners and occupiers of lands, houses, tenements and hereditaments, or any personal estate equally rateable to the poor in the said parish, for the raising of 50*l.* for the above purpose, so that the assessments do not exceed 6*d.* in the pound of the yearly value of lands etc., or 6*d.* on every 20*l.* of personal estate. The assessments are to be levied by distress and sale of goods in case of non-payment within 10 days after demand.

12. The like for the surveyors of Carhampton, but no sum mentioned.

13. The like for the surveyors of the highways of Ryson.

14. The like for the surveyors of St Decoman's.

15. Order made at Compton Pauncefoote by Edward Phelipps and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Alice Barnes, single woman, born at Charleton Musgrove; John Hodges of Charleton Musgrove, husbandman, being the reputed father. Dated 28 June, 1670.

16. Order made at Bridgewater by Henry Rogers and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Anne Reede, single woman, born at Stringston ; William Longe of Bridgewater, husbandman, being the reputed father. Dated 13 July, 1670.

17. The justices nearest to Norton subter Hambden having failed to settle the dispute touching the 20*l.* deposited by John Tayler for the use of Joan Oastler [*p.* 83] ; the Court, by consent of all parties, orders the matter to be referred to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justice, and Richard Sherwin, Esq., whose order is to be binding on all parties.

18. Order, on a petition by Jonathan Tyler of High Littleton and a certificate by the minister and several inhabitants of that parish, that Tyler may build a cottage on the waste or common called " the Outlet," which shall be for his habitation for 60 years, if he live so long ; John Britten, gentleman, lord of the said waste, having signified his consent thereto.

19. On complaint by Mr. George Pippen, treasurer for the repair of the back of Ex Bridge in the parish of Brushford, that the hundreds of Brent cum Wrington, Portbury, Northpetherton, Pitney, Winterstoke, Wells Forum and Wello have not paid their proportions, whereby the work (already begun) is likely to prove ineffectual ; the Court orders the sheriff to issue warrants to the respective constables to pay their proportions to Mr. Pippen or his deputy at the sign of the " Hare and Hounds," Wells, on Tuesday, 9 August next, and desires the nearest justice to bind over any defaulters to the next Assizes, Gaol Delivery or General Quarter Sessions, where the said treasurer is to prosecute them.

20. Request to Sir Hugh Smyth, K.B. and Bart., Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., Francis Poulet, Samuel Gorges, Esquires, and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, to examine a dispute between the parishes of Loxton, Curston, Congersbury and

West Weston touching the settlement and maintenance of a base daughter of Alice Jenckins ; and if they cannot compose the dispute, to report to the next General Sessions and bind over thereto any persons who refuse obedience to them.

21. Request to Sir Edward Phellipps, Knt., justice, to settle, if he can, a complaint by Mary Pritchett of Bridgwater, widow, that Henry Podger of Langport, taking advantage of her poverty, detains from her the writings and evidences of her right to two houses in Langport whereof her father, Ambrose Manfeild, late of Langport, was seised in his demesne as of fee, and which ought to descend to her as his coheir, and also keeps her out of possession of the premises ; and to certify his opinion in the matter at the next General Sessions.

22. Order that the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division do pay to Edward Davies, one of the keepers of the Common Gaol at Ilchester, 30s. 5*d.* laid out by him towards the repair of the gaol.

23. The like order for the treasurer of the Western Division to pay William Alford 6*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* for repairing the House of Correction at Taunton.

24. Confirmation of the order made at Ivelchester Sessions last for the discharge of John Girrish from his apprenticeship with Henry Davison.

25. Order, on the refusal of John Prowse, Esq., to act as treasurer of the maimed soldiers, that for the present Mr. Thomas Creech, late deputy treasurer of the county, shall receive and disburse moneys in his place.

26. Discharge of an order made by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Fitzhardinge and Sir George Horner, Knt., touching the maintenance of John, an alleged bastard child of Jane Penny by William Wilcox of Kilmersdon, unless the parishioners of Kilmersdon can shew at the next General Sessions that Jane's

husband was dead before the pretended base child was born ; as it has been alleged that the husband was living.

27. Request to the justices nearest to Knowle to summon William Lumbert of Chafcombe before them and require him to give security to carry out the order made by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the maintenance of his base child by Rebecca Rawlins, single woman, and to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses ; he having brought a writ of *certiorari* to remove the recognisance and order aforesaid, and the Court of King's Bench at Westminster, on return of the said *certiorari*, having made a rule that the order be confirmed, since which time the child's mother has run away, leaving the child wholly on the charge of the parish of Knowle.

28. Reference to Edward Clarke and James Prowse, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between the parishes of Hilfarence and Bradford as to whether an estate in Bradford of the yearly value of 10*l.* was let by Mr. John Westcombe to Robert Woollacott *bona fide* and for a valuable consideration, or by fraud and without payment of a penny of rent. If Westcombe will swear before the justices that it was let *bona fide*, then Woollacott shall be absolutely settled at Bradford ; otherwise he shall be settled at Hilfarence in accordance with an order made at Bridgwater Sessions last.

29. Reference to Sir William Windham, Knt. and Bart., and Sir John Mallet, Knt., justices, of a dispute between Nicholas Snow and the churchwardens and overseers of Winsford touching the estate of Mary Rayment remaining in the hands of the churchwardens and overseers, which ought to come to Snow ; and request to them to bind the churchwardens and overseers over to the next General Sessions, if they will not give an account of what is become of Mary's estate and moneys.

BATH SESSIONS. 4 October, 22 Charles II. [1670.]

1. Grand Jury's presentments :—

- (a) A bridge called Ivy Bridge in the hundred of Wellowe, lately built at the charges of the county, is now in decay by the abuse of evil persons in the battlements thereof, which tends much to the ruin thereof. Ordered to be repaired.
- (b) John Andrewes of Corston presented by information of John Britten of Corston for not cleansing a ditch called Pond Close Ditch, and for detaining the water out of its ancient course to the great annoyance of the highway there between Bath and Bristol.

2. Order, at the request of the inhabitants of Wellewe, Tuckerton and Combehay, that the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division do pay 23s. to James Rowsewell of Combehay for the repair of the battlements of Ivy Bridge, " which is not known at present whether it be a county bridge or not."

3. Order and request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, to view the ruins and ' disrepairs ' of Ivelchester Bridge, (which is a county bridge and could be repaired at a very small charge, if timely done), and to consider what moneys are needed for the repair thereof; and order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay the said moneys to the persons appointed by the said justices.

4. On reading an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, touching the removal of John Kelson from Henington to Orchardly, where he was last legally settled; the Court orders that he remain at Henington until further order, and that if at the next General Sessions it be the Court's opinion that he ought to be settled there, Henington shall pay all the charges sustained by Orchardley in their defence since the above order.

5. The Court, on a complaint by Witcombe juxta Bathe and Lyncombe, orders and desires John Hall, Esq., justice, to summon Robert Canington, servant and collector of moneys to the late bishop of Bath and Wells, [and compel him] to pay to the supervisors of highways in the said parishes all the moneys which he has levied on the inhabitants of those parishes for non-repair of their highways since the restoration of his sacred Majesty that now is, and to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to do so.

6. Confirmation of an order by Sir John Newton, Knt. and Bart., and John Meredith, Esq., justices of Gloucestershire, for the removal of a base child called James Fulwood from the tithing of Hannam, co. Gloucester, to the parish of Bedminster ; and order accordingly.

7. Confirmation of an order by Francis Paulet, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, for the removal of John Elford with his wife and family from Batcombe to Witham Frary ; and order accordingly.

8. On a certificate by the justices to whom the consideration of a dispute between the parishes of Hilfarrence and Bradford was referred at Bridgewater Sessions last [p. 91] shewing that the estate in question was really let by Mr. John Westcombe to Robert Woollacott, and rent paid by the latter accordingly, and that the land is now in Woollacott's possession, only the herbage being let for the present ; the Court orders that Woollacott with his wife and family be absolutely settled at Bradford.

9. Appointment of Thomas Heath of Priestley to be governor and keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet, in the stead of Hercules Whiteinge, deceased, from and after the next General Sessions. In the meantime he is to give security to Richard Slade of Blackford for his faithful discharge of the office.

10. Order that Arthur Whiteinge, son of Hercules Whiteinge, be permitted to continue in possession of the House of Correction of Shepton Mallett, and to have the government and profit thereof, until the next General Sessions; and request to the two nearest justices to examine in the meantime what goods and other household stuff in the said House of Correction belongs thereto, and report at the next General Sessions; as Arthur Whiteinge has represented that several of the said goods were his father's.

11. Request to Sir Hugh Smyth, K.B. and Bart., Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., Francis Paulett, Samuel Gorges, Thomas Piggott, Francis Vaughan, Esquires, and Henry Deane, LL.D., to settle, if possible, a dispute between the parishes of Loxton, Curston, Congersbury and West Weston touching the settlement and maintenance of a base daughter of Alice Jenckins. The order made by the justices is to be binding unless very good cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

12. Request to Edward Clarke and James Prowse, Esquires, justices, to enquire whether William White of Bishopps Lyddeard is really a prisoner in Taunton Castle for debt, or only under colour and pretence to save the forfeiture of his recognizances for non-appearance at this Sessions. If the latter is the case, the recognizances are to be estreated into the Exchequer; otherwise they are to be respited to the next General Sessions.

13. Request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justice, to bind over to the next General Sessions the constables of the hundreds of Martock, Kingsebery East, North Curry, Hounsborrow and Crewkerne; as the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division has complained that they have failed to pay their contributions towards the hospitals.

14. On a petition of Simon Sutton of Prestleigh in the parish of Doultinge, and a certificate by the minister, church-

wardens, overseers and others of the parish ; the Court orders that Simon may build a cottage on the waste ground on the north-west side of the pound in the village of Prestley, and have it for his habitation for 60 years, if he live so long ; Ralph Stawell, Esq., lord of the fee of the said waste, having consented thereto.

15. A like order for Walter Frapwell of Stone Easton to build and inhabit a cottage on the waste ground or common called Old Downe in the parish of Stone Easton ; Richard Hippisley, Esq., lord of the fee of the said waste, having consented thereto.

16. Richard Churchill of Dorchester, Esq., head collector of hearth-money in the county of Somerset and city of Bristol. His lawful deputies :—Henry Dollinge of Dorchester, John Churchill of the same, George Lawrence of London, Robert Flower and Andrew Hayes of Bristol, Christopher Dollinge, John Williams and George Sheereman of Dorchester, William Ayres of Osmington, John Davis of Pidle and John Clement of Dunstar, gentlemen.

17. Modification of an order made by Henry Rogers and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Ann Reed, spinster, at Stringston ; William Longe of Bridgwater, the reputed father, having alleged that he is of very small estate, being only a justment renter, and that Ann's father has in his own right a very considerable estate.

WELLS SESSION. 10 January, 22 Charles II. [1671.]

1. On a petition of the inhabitants of Burneham shewing that Richard Crosse, gentleman, who was presented at a leet and lawday court held for the hundred of Bempstone to find a tithingman for a tenement which he enjoys in Burneham parish, refuses to do so on pretence that he is exempted by

reason of his office of cursitor of the city of London ; the Court orders that Matthew Stoddon of Stogursey be tithingman for the coming year, and that Francis Vaughan, Esq., justice, swear him to execute the office, and bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to do so.

2. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Burneham and Badgworth, that William Bindon of Burneham do pay 3*l.* to the overseers of Badgworth before 2 February next for the use of Edward Day, a poor man likely to become chargeable at Badgworth. If he refuses to pay, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

3. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 6*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* to William Alford, master of the House of Correction at Taunton, on account of repairs to the said house.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Shepton Mallet and Pilton, for the settlement of Thomas Woolley with his wife and family at Shepton Mallet ; the parishioners of Shepton having alleged that Woolley rented a ' water greist mill ' at Pilton, to which it was answered that he very seldom lodged there, but continued at Shepton.

5. On hearing a dispute between John Clement of Winecaunton and his prosecutors touching his refusal to take the office of constable for the hundred of Norton Ferris, (for which he was chosen at the last court leet for the hundred), on the ground that he is a burgager and resident within the borough of Winecaunton, where a court leet has been held time out of mind, and that the burgagers and residents thereof are exempted from attendance at the court leets for the hundred ; the Court, in accordance with an agreement between the parties, orders that he take oath before Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, to execute the office for next year in respect of his lands lying within the hundred and out of the borough, and declares that

his executing the office shall not be prejudicial to any privileges of the inhabitants of the borough or hundred.

6. On a petition by Edward Stivard of Lockinge shewing that, through his infirmities (especially of sight) and inability to travel, he is unfit to execute the office of constable of the hundred of Winterstoake to which he was elected at a court leet held at Banwell about Michaelmas last ; the Court orders that he be removed from the office, and that Thomas Porter of Hutton be sworn in his place before Francis Vaughan, Esq., justice, who is desired to bind Porter over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to take the oath.

7. Order that the dispute between the parishes of Hemington and Orchardly touching the settlement of John Kelson [*p.* 92] stand over without prejudice until the next General Sessions, when the Court is resolved to put a final end to the matter.

8. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay to Gabriel Hix 40s., the arrears of his pension for a whole year.

9. Reference to the two nearest justices of a dispute between the parishes of Othery and Greynton touching the settlement of Henry Menot, son of Henry Menot, who was born in Greynton, after which his father married Joan Pitman, widow, then living at Othery, where she died ; a request having been made that, as Henry is not yet 7 years old, he may be removed from Othery and settled at Greinton, the place of his birth. The said justices are desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse obedience to their order.

10. On a dispute between Richard Standerwicke of Buckland St Marie and Edward Weare, lately his apprentice, who has left his said master on pretence that he is 24 years old and his apprenticeship expired, whereas his master insists that he will not be of that age until April 1672 ; the Court for the present declares Weare to be 24 years old and free to

serve and dwell with any one he pleases. But by mutual consent it is also ordered that, if Standerwick can prove his contention at the next General Sessions, Weare shall return to him, and if he fails to prove his case, he shall pay Weare such costs as the Court shall think fit.

11. Order that John Boarde with his wife and children, who have now become chargeable to the parish of St John's, Glaston, be henceforth absolutely settled in the parish of St Benedict's, Glaston, the churchwardens and overseers of which undertook to receive them back if they became thus chargeable.

12. On complaint by the parishioners of Henstridge that Henry Combes of the same parish has without cause put away John Webb, his apprentice, whereby the latter has become chargeable to the parish; the Court orders Combes to receive his apprentice again, and desires the nearest justice to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

13. Confirmation of an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., John Harrington and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Thomas Shore and his wife from Markesbury to Claverton, where they were last legally settled; and order accordingly.

14. Discharge of an order by Sir Hugh Smyth, K.B. and Bart., and Samuel Gorges, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of James, a base child of Joan Nethway of Cleavedon by James Barber of the same, the latter having a very small estate; and fresh order touching the same matter.

15. Request to Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, to settle a complaint by John Creech of Cary Fitzpayne that he has been elected as a constable of Whitley hundred, although the constable for this year ought to be elected out of the tithing of Whethill, (five constables having been chosen of late from Cary and only one from Whethill, which is as large as Cary),

and although he is very aged. The justice is to swear whoever he thinks suitable, and to report his opinion to the next General Sessions, if he cannot settle the matter.

16. On hearing a dispute between the parishioners of Upton and Mary Periam of Runton *alias* Runington, widow, who refuses to receive and keep John Silvester, a poor child placed with her in respect of a tenement of hers in Upton by an indenture sealed by the churchwardens and overseers of Upton and confirmed by four justices; the Court orders that the indenture be confirmed, and that she or her tenant receive the child and provide for him according to law, and desires the justice nearest to Runington to bind her over to the next General Sessions if she refuses.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 2 May, 23 Charles II. [1671.]

1. Rates of wages set by the Grand Jury.

As above [*p.* 13], except that item (6) is rated at 10*d.*, items (13), (14), (19) and (21) are omitted, item (12) is rated at 6*d.*, item (20) is rated at 1*s.* 2*d.*, and the following additional rates are given :—

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|-------------------------|
| Mowing an acre of oats | .. | .. | 10 <i>d.</i> |
| Cutting and binding an acre of beans | | | 2 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> |

2. Order that an equal pound rate be made on all inhabitants and occupiers of lands, glebes and tithes, both appropriate and inappropriate, in the tithing of Speckington and Bridghampton, for the speedy repair of the bridge in the said tithing on the highway between the market towns of Shurborne and Somerton, which is in great decay. The nearest justice is to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse or neglect to pay.

3. On the submission of Richard Chapman, son of Richard Chapman, servant, clerk or apprentice to Benjamin Avery of

Froome Zellwood, and on his promise to lead a new life and be a faithful servant to his master ; the Court, being of opinion that he is not a lawful apprentice, orders Avery to receive him again into his service and not discharge him without a quarter's notice, and desires the nearest justice to send Chapman to the House of Correction in case of bad behaviour, and to bind Avery over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to obey this order.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Kilmersdon and Shepton Mallet, for the settlement of Richard Springer and Grace, his wife, at Kilmersdon, unless the latter parish shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions ; and discharge of a previous order settling them at Shepton Mallet.

5. On reading an order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Elizabeth Phlipin from Curry Rivell to Weston Zoyland, and an allegation by the latter parish that she is unable to travel and therefore cannot make it appear without her own oath where she was last legally settled ; the Court orders that both parishes appear with their proofs at the next General Sessions, that Elizabeth be removed forthwith to Weston Zoyland, and that if she become chargeable at Curry Rivell before her removal, the parishioners of Weston Zoyland shall pay the charges of her keeping if the Court order her to be settled at Weston Zoyland.

6. On hearing a dispute between the parishioners of Stoursey and John Crosse, who has been found guilty and fined at this Sessions for refusing to obey an order made at Bridge-water Sessions last that he should receive Anne Willis as his apprentice in respect of a farm in Stogursey which he rented from Mrs. Joan Everard, and on information that his term in the farm expired soon after he was ordered to receive the said apprentice, and on submission and payment of 40s. to the overseers of Stogursey by the said Mrs. Everard ; the Court discharges her and Crosse of the said apprentice.

7. Order by Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Joan Titefoote of Gregory Stoke, singlewoman; David Babb of Stwoford in the parish of Stokegursesey being the reputed father. Dated 8 February, 1670-1.

8. On complaint that Mr. George Pippen and Nicholas Case, treasurers for the repair of the back of Exbridge in the parish of Brushford, have not laid out any of the moneys received by them for the purpose aforesaid, so that the back of the bridge is now destroyed and carried away by the violence of the water, and the bridge become unpassable, whereby the repair thereof will cost much more than it would have done; the Court orders and desires Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., Sir Hugh Wyndham, Knt., Sir John Mallet, Knt., Sir George Trevylian, Knt. and Bart., and Peregrine Palmer and William Lacy, Esquires, justices, to summon the said treasurers, take their account, bind them over to the next General Sessions in case remissness or neglect on their part be found, receive from them any moneys remaining in their hands, and appoint other treasurers in their place, if need be. The Court also orders all constables of hundreds to collect their proportions for the repair of the bridge, if they are in arrear, and pay them to the new treasurers, that they may be disposed of for the above purpose at or before the next General Sessions; and desires the nearest justice to bind over to the said Sessions any constable who is negligent or remiss in the matter.

9. On hearing the complaint of several of the inhabitants of Ubley that they have lately been distrained by the overseers of the parish on pretence that they were at an unlawful meeting and conventicle in their own parish church, and upon information that the conventicle was held on a Sunday morning at the time of divine service, and that many of them came upon ringing of the bell, as usually, not knowing anything to the contrary but that the minister of the parish or some other lawful minister was to officiate; the Court, agreeing that

in the circumstances they are not liable to any penalties, desires Peter Roynon, Esq., justice, to examine the truth of the said information, and orders that, if he find it to be true, the churchwardens and overseers of the parish shall restore the goods distrained, or if the goods be sold, any surplus remaining from such sale, and refrain from levying anything more on that account. Mr. Roynon is to enquire whether any penalty was levied on any officers for not doing their duty under the late Act against conventicles, and to report his proceedings to the next General Sessions.

10. Confirmation of the order made at Wells Sessions last for the discharge of Edward Weare from his apprenticeship with Richard Standerwicke [*p.* 97], the latter having failed to appear at this Sessions to prove his case; and order that Standerwicke pay Weare 40s. for his trouble and vexation. The Court desires the nearest justice to bind over Standerwicke to the next General Sessions if he fail to obey the said order.

11. Reference to Francis Vaughan, Esq., justice, of a dispute between the parishioners of Huntspill and Matthew Norvall of Berrowe touching the maintenance of the latter's bastard daughter by Maud Symes; and request to Mr. Vaughan to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse obedience to his order.

12. Order to the constables of the hundreds of Bathe Forum, Brent with the liberty of Wrington, Froome, Glaston Twelve Hides, Horethorne, Huntspill and Puriton, Hartcliffe and Bedminster, Kilmersdon, Norton Ferris, Pitney, Stone and Catsaish, Somerton, Winterstoke, Whitstone and Wells Forum to collect forthwith the arrears of their proportions of the 222*l.* which was to be raised for the repair of the Tone and Heale Bridges in accordance with previous orders made at Ivelchester Sessions last, and to pay the same to Mr. William Searle and Mr. Jasper Woodhouse of the parish of Bradford, who are appointed to receive the same; and appointment of

John Brewford and Charles Grave of Bradford as surveyors of the said work. The justices are to bind over any persons, whether constables, surveyors or others, who refuse obedience to this order.

13. Order for the removal of Thomas Reading and Joan, his wife, from Holeford to Overstowye, and for their absolute settlement at the latter place, notwithstanding a former order by Henry Rogers and William Lacy, Esquires, justices, for their removal to Holeford. The nearest justice is desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any of the parishioners of Overstowye who do not obey this order.

14. Order for the absolute settlement of John Kilson at Orchardly. [*See pp. 92, 97.*]

15. Order for payment by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to Edward Davys, gaoler of the county, of 4*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* for the repair of the common gaol, part of that sum having already been disbursed thereon.

16. On a petition from Thomas James, governor of the poor people in the almshouse called St. Mary Magdalen in the parish of Curry Rivell, shewing that the almshouse is very ruinous and decayed ; the Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices, to enquire into the matter and direct any necessary repairs to be done forthwith ; and orders the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to make such payments for the purpose as the justices shall think necessary.

17. Order for payment by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justice, of 5*l.* disbursed by him on the repair of Ivelchester bridge, which is very ruinous.

18. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Sir John Mallet, Knt., and Robert Hunt and William Helyar, Esquires,

justices, to summon before them Mr. George Brooke, who is stated to have several sums of public moneys in his hand, take his account, order him to make payment of any such sums to one of the treasurers of the hospitals or other suitable person, and bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

19. Licence for Maximilian Stone of Eastlidford, a very poor man, to erect a cottage on the waste ground of the parish of Eastlidford and dwell therein for 60 years, if he live so long ; Sir Charles Waldegrave, lord of the fee of the said waste, having given his consent. After 60 years the cottage is to remain to the inhabitants of the parish.

20. Appointment of John Prowse of Axbridge, Esq., to be treasurer of the maimed soldiers for the coming year ; and request to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, to take the account of the late treasurer.

21. John Mallack of Taunton, gentleman, to be treasurer for the hospitals of the Western Division.

22. William Blanchard of Catheringe, Esq., to be treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS, 11 July, 23 Charles II. [1671.]

1. On complaint by the surveyors of the highways of the parish of Westmunkton that the common highways, causeys and bridges in the parish cannot be properly repaired by means of the laws now in force ; the Court, in pursuance of a late Act of Parliament, orders the surveyors to cause one or more assessments for raising 30*l.* to be made in the parish on all property rateable to the poor, not exceeding 6*d.* in the pound on real estate and 6*d.* in 20*l.* on personal estate, and to employ

the proceeds on the repair of the said highways, etc., distraining on any persons failing to pay within 10 days after demand.

2. On the petition of the inhabitants of North Curry concerning a bridge in their parish called Knapp Bridge, which is very ruinous and likely to fall into utter decay without speedy prevention ; the Court orders that an assessment be made in the said parish as above [*last entry*], and appoints Giles Foster and Michael Potter, churchwardens of the parish, to be the collectors thereof.

3. On complaint by the surveyors of the highways in the parish of Ryston that the common highways in the parish cannot be properly repaired by means of the laws now in force ; the Court orders that one or more assessments be made as above for raising 10*l.* in the said parish for the repair of the said highways.

4. Stanton Drew highways. A like order for 12*l.*

5. Order that John Silvester, a poor child, be forthwith placed apprentice with Edward Periam, tenant or occupier of Upton Farm in Upton parish, in accordance with an indenture confirmed by Sir George Trevelyian, Bart., and William Lacy, Esq., justices ; and request to Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and Sir John Mallet, Knt., to see that he be placed accordingly.

6. Order for the removal of Edmund Jones with his wife and family from Bathe Easton to Itton, co. Monmouth, in accordance with an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Peter Roynon, Esq., justices ; as it appears that he formerly intruded himself into the parish of Bath Foord, whence he was removed to Itton, but shortly returned with a certificate by the minister and inhabitants of Itton owning him as an inhabitant of their parish, which certificate he burnt, and that he afterwards intruded himself into the parish of Bathe Easton,

where he was disturbed but remained in hiding so that no warrant could be served on him, (but his wife was removed and soon sent back).

7. On complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of Hilfarrence that John, a bastard son of Honor Lumbard by John Kinge of their parish, has become chargeable to the parish ; the Court orders Kinge to give security within 10 days for the discharge of the parish, and desires Edward Clarke, Esq., justice, to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

8. On reading an order by two justices for the removal of Richard Silcock with his wife and children from Buckland Denham to Duncerton, and on Silcock's making oath that he rented a house in Buckland for more than a year and was not out of the parish for 40 days during 6 years ; the Court orders that he remain where he now is without prejudice to either parish, and that the matter be settled finally at the next General Sessions.

9. On complaint by the inhabitants and surveyors of the highways of the parish of Canington that the late surveyors (William Ruscombe, Robert Huish and William Cridland, and John Stone, deceased,) have refused to account for the moneys received by them ; the Court desires Henry Rogers, Esq., justice, to convene before him William, Robert and William, and the executors or administrators of John, and require them to give account of their receipts or disbursements, and to bind them over to the next General Sessions if they refuse or neglect to do so and to pay over the moneys in their hands.

10. Discharge of an order made at Ilchester Sessions last touching Edward Weare, Richard Standerwicke's apprentice [*p.* 102] ; and order that Weare remain as Standerwicke's apprentice until he be 24 years old : as it appears that Standerwicke was surprised by the said order and did not appear

at Ilchester Sessions because the dispute was under arbitration, and that Weare is not yet 24 years old.

11. Order for the absolute settlement of Elizabeth Phlippen at Weston Zoyland. [See p. 100.]

12. On reading a certificate by John Stocker, senior, William Carter and Henry Key, overseers of Ilmister, whereby they promised to take back and provide for Arthur Aymes, formerly of their parish, (who with his wife and children was received by George Norris of Dunyeate, his brother-in-law, into his dwelling house), if at any time they should become chargeable at Dunyeate; and on information that, although they have become so chargeable, the parishioners of Ilmister refuse to receive them: the Court desires Sir Edward Phelips, Knt., and Henry Waldron, Esq., justices, to convene the churchwardens and overseers of both parishes, and examine the truth of the said certificate; and orders that Aymes with his wife and children be settled at Ilmister if the justices find the certificate to be a true one.

13. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Congersbury and Churchill, for the absolute settlement of Jasper Wilsheere at Congersbury, as it appears that he rented lands there to the yearly value of 10*l.* 5*s.*, and was last legally settled there.

14. Order for the removal of Richard Hodges with his wife and family from Milton Clevedon to St Cuthbert's, Wells, notwithstanding an order to the contrary by Francis Paulett, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices.

15. Confirmation of an order by the same two justices for the removal of Mark Wilsheire from Shepton Mallett to Pilton, *alias* Pullton.

16. Request to Francis Poulett, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., to examine George Brookes of Glaston, son-in-law of

Henry Warren, as to the truth of a petition by Jane Warren, Henry's wife, setting forth that her husband, being now grown ancient and soon won by fair words, for the lucre of the estate which he had with her, (about 7*l.* per annum with 6 milch-cows and other goods), has been drawn away by Brookes, who has got all his estate into his custody, so that she is reduced to great misery and want. If they cannot settle the matter, they are to report at the next General Sessions.

17. Order for the removal of Henry Hooper with his wife and family from Moorebath, co. Devon, to Brusford, and for his absolute settlement at Brushford; the dispute between the said parishes having been referred by Sir William Wyndham, Sir Hugh Wyndham and Sir John Malett, justices, to the judges of Assize for Devon, who thought fit to confirm an order by Henry Carewe and Thomas Bere, Esquires, justices of Devon, for Hooper's removal to Brushford.

18. Order for the removal of Elizabeth Cussens from Loveington, and for her absolute settlement at East Lidford, notwithstanding a contrary order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices.

19. Order varying an order by Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Joan Tytefoote of Gregory Stocke, David Babb of Stoford being the reputed father.

20. On complaint that Thomas Hix of Murlinch, husbandman, keeps a very disorderly alehouse whither incorrigible rogues resort; the Court orders that he be discharged from keeping any common alehouse or tippling house until further order, and desires the nearest justice to bind him over to the next General Sessions unless he obeys this order.

21. John Vernecombe, brought into Court by warrant of John Turbervill, Esq., justice, to whom he has made oath,

as directed by an Act intituled "An Act for relief and release of poor prisoners for debt," that he is not worth 10*l.*, is remanded to prison to the keeper of Taunton Castle until the next General Sessions. In the meantime he is to give 40 days' notice to his creditors according to the said Act.

BATH SESSIONS. 3 October, 23 Charles II. [1671.]

1. Order that Richard Fleede of Wyvelscombe be constable of the hundred of Kingsbery West for the coming year in the place of Robert Salter, and that he take oath within a week after sight of this order.

2. Confirmation of an order by Francis Poulett, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, for the removal of Richard Hodges with his wife and family from St Cuthbert's, Wells, to Milton Clevedon; and order accordingly.

3. Order that Richard West give good security to the churchwardens and overseers of Wolverton to discharge the parish from his base child by Elizabeth Straddock. The Court desires Edward Bampfild, Esq., justice, to see that the security be sufficient.

4. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and Sir John Mallett, Knt., justices, for the removal of John Sully, *alias* Dyer, from Brompton Ralph to Elworthy; and order accordingly.

5. Order for the removal of Richard Silcox from Buckland to Dunckerton, and for his absolute settlement there; as it appears by his oath that his wife and family remained at Dunckerton while he worked at Buckland, and that he returned to her on Saturdays and gave her his earnings to relieve her and his children. [See *p.* 106.]

6. Order that the parishioners of Shepton Mallet and Pilton *alias* Poulton appear with their proofs and evidences at the next General Sessions, at which the Court is resolved to put an end to the dispute between them touching the settlement of Mark Wilsheire ; as it appears that, on an appeal by Pilton against an order made at a previous Wells Sessions, the matter was postponed to the Sessions next following, at which Shepton Mallet failed to appear, and that at last Bridgewater Sessions, when Shepton Mallet obtained an order, Pilton was not present.

7. On complaint by the surveyors of the highways in the parish of Taunton Magdalen that the said highways cannot properly be repaired by means of the laws now in force ; the Court orders that Alexander Hill, Henry Bydgood and Thomas Clarke do make one or more assessments for raising 50*l.* for the purpose, as above [*p.* 104].

8. Order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Helyar, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Sarah Palmer, born at Stoke ; William Ellyott of Southpetherton being the reputed father. Dated 21 April, 1671.

9. Order by Thomas Baynard and George Browne, Esquires, justices of Dorset, to the constable, tithingman, churchwardens and overseers of Charleton Hawthorne, to convey Robert Woodland of their parish, who has lately come to Pudletrent-hide, co. Dorset, and is likely to be chargeable there, back to Charleton Hawthorne, where he was last legally settled. Dated 22 July, 1671.

10. Order that the above order be absolutely discharged, and that Woodland be removed back to Pidletrenthide for settlement there ; as it appears from his deposition taken before Robert Hunt, Esq., justice, (he himself being too sick to appear), that he went to Pidletrenthide a month before Christmas and remained there without disturbance until June last.

11. On reading an order made by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices, touching the removal of William Whellier with his wife and children from Ileton to Durrington, co. Wilts, and on a promise by Mr. Edward Poore of Ilton that he will either get two justices of Wilts to subscribe to a certificate given by the minister, churchwardens, overseers and other inhabitants of Durrington whereby they promised to take back Whellyer if he should become chargeable at Ileton, or else give his bond for discharging Ileton of Whellyer; the Court orders that, if Poore fulfils his promise at or before the next General Sessions, Wellyer with his wife and family shall remain at Ileton, notwithstanding the aforesaid order. Otherwise the said order shall be confirmed.

12. Order, dated 24 August, 1671, by John Turberville, James Prowse and Henry Walrond, justices, settling the fees and future government of the ward and prison in Taunton Castle in accordance with an Act of 22-23 Charles II. entitled "An Act for the relief and release of poor distressed prisoners for debt," as follows:—

| | |
|---|----------|
| For every commitment fee of every prisoner | 13s. 4d. |
| For the chamber rent of every prisoner so committed | 3s. 0d. |
| For every prisoner, the keeper finding him bedding and lodging, for his chamber rent weekly | 3s. 6d. |
| For the delivery and discharge of every prisoner out of the prison | 2s. 0d. |
| For the turnkey fees of every prisoner so discharged | 1s. 0d. |
| For every charging of every prisoner so in the said prison.. .. . | 2s. 0d. |
| Allowed and confirmed by | |

John Vaughan }
 Ri: Raynsford } Judges of Assize.

6 Sept., 1671.

WELLS SESSIONS. 9-11 January, 23 Charles II. [1672.]

1. On complaint by William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, that Henry Walrond, Esq., justice, committed to the said house one John Penny of Swell, a mere idiot, who cannot maintain himself and has remained there more than 7 weeks at his, the keeper's, charges; the Court orders that Penny be conveyed to Swell, there to be provided for, and that the overseers of Swell pay Alford 21s. for Penny's maintenance. If they refuse, the nearest justice is to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

2. Discharge of an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and John Harrington, Esq., for the removal of Henry and George Cooke, infants, from Walcott to Tellisford; and order that the said infants be absolutely settled at Woolcott, where it appears they have lived for 2 years without disturbance.

3. Order that Thomas Rawlins, the elder, of Kainsham, give security to the churchwardens and overseers of Shepton Mallett to discharge them of the maintenance of a base child of Jane Jenckins; his son, Thomas Rawlins, the younger, being the reputed father of the child.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishioners of Fitzhead and John Martin of the same, that the overseers of Fitzhead provide James Wood, (a poor child of the parish, son of Mary Wood of Fitzhead), with a complete suit of apparel, and that thereupon the child be placed as an apprentice with Martin in respect of Martin's estate in the parish.

5. On a dispute between the parishes of Roade and Wolverton touching one Philip Hunt, and on reading a certificate subscribed by two justices whereby Woolverton undertook to discharge Roade of the said Hunt in the event of his becoming chargeable there; the Court orders that Hunt shall continue at Roade if he will give security to the churchwardens and

overseers thereof for their discharge, such certificate to be approved by Sir William Basset, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices.

6. Appointment of Maurice, Viscount Fitzharding, Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Edward Phelipps and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, to view and control the estreats to issue out of the County Court for last year.

7. Discharge of an order by Sir Thomas Mompesson, Knt., and William Swanton, Esq., justices of Wilts, for the removal of John Whitehead from Fisherton Anger, co. Wilts, to Nunny, co. Somerset ; and order that Whitehead be absolutely settled at Fisherton unless the parishioners thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions : as it appears that Whitehead lived for 9 weeks at Fisherton without disturbance, and that the inhabitants of Nunny had no notice of the order and could not appeal.

8. Order for the absolute settlement of John Sully, *alias* Dyer, in the parish of Brompton Ralph, where he now dwells and has a house and 5 acres of ground for life ; notwithstanding the order made at Bath Sessions last for his settlement at Elworthy.

9. Order that the treasurers of the hospitals of the county do pay 25*l.* to Nicholas Dowthwayte of Wells, gentleman, for the repair of the Record House for preserving and keeping the records of the peace of the county at Wells, which is out of repair. The Court desires Dr. Bathurst, Dean of Wells, Henry Deane, LL.D., and Thomas Holt, D.D., justices, to see that the money is laid out for that purpose.

10. Repetition of the order made at Ilchester Sessions last touching the repair of the Tone and Hele Bridges [*p.* 102], specifying the sums to be collected by the various constables, as follows :—

Bathe Forum, 3*l.* 1*s.* ; Brent cum Wrington, 3*l.* 13*s.* 2½*d.* ;

Froome, 3*l.* 13*s.* 2¼*d.* ; Glaston 12 Hides, 3*l.* 13*s.* 2¼*d.* ; Horethorne, 2*l.* 14*s.* 10¾*d.* ; Huntspill and Puriton, 1*l.* 4*s.* 4¾*d.* ; Hartcliffe and Bedminster, 3*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* ; Kilmersdon, 1*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* ; Norton Ferris, 2*l.* 2*s.* 8¼*d.* ; Pitney, 1*l.* 4*s.* 4¾*d.* ; Catsash, 2*l.* 14*s.* 10¾*d.* ; Somerton, 2*l.* 8*s.* 9½*d.* ; Winterstoke, 6*l.* 14*s.* 2¼*d.* ; Whitstone and Wells Forum, 4*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*

11. Order that the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division do pay to Edward Davies 5*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* in part satisfaction of 11*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* laid out on the repair of the Common Gaol and House of Correction at Ivelchester.

12. The like order to the treasurer of the Western Division to pay 5*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

13. The like to the same to pay 3*l.* to Mr. Thomas Gale of Taunton St James towards the repair of Tonebridge in Taunton St James.

14. The like to the same to pay to Mr. William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, 4*l.* 14*s.* disbursed by him on the repair of the said house.

15. Order that the treasurer of the maimed soldiers do pay 40*s.* to Gabriel Hickes, a poor pensioner.

16. Order that the same treasurer do pay Richard Masters, formerly a pensioner, 20*s.* as a gift.

17. Order that the Treasurer of the maimed soldiers refrain from paying any pensioner at the next General Sessions unless he appears in person or else shews himself to the constable of his hundred, so that the latter may make oath in open court that he is alive ; as the Court is informed that some persons by indirect means procure certificates from ministers and churchwardens in respect of pensioners who are dead, and so get the pensions into their hands.

18. Order that the dispute between the parishes of Shepton Mallet and Pilton, *alias* Poulton, as to the settlement of Mark Wilsheir [*p.* 110] be further postponed until next General Sessions, and that the parishioners of Pilton pay costs to those of Shepton if the decision be then against them ; as the said parishioners of Pilton have alleged that they had no time to get such witnesses as they intended for this Sessions.

19. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Newton St Loe and Buckland, that Ann Bigg be absolutely settled at Buckland unless the parishioners thereof give the churchwardens and overseers of Newton a sufficient discharge from her ; it being alleged that she came from Buckland to Newton as an apprentice of Joseph Bigg of Newton, bodice-maker, who was to receive 12*d.* a week for her maintenance from the overseers of Buckland, and that she remained there for 20 weeks, and that Joseph Bigg afterwards proved insolvent and unable to take an apprentice.

20. Reference to John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, of a petition by Lawrence Forshaw on behalf of Lady Ann Kingsmill shewing that Lady Ann is rated for the poor of the parish of Chewton, in respect of her being the owner and occupier of the profits of the rectory of the parish, after the value of 200*l.* per annum, whereas the said profits are not worth 40*l.*, since she pays several sums of money out of the same, and in particular 25*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, who are rated for that amount in the said parish but refuse to pay the same, so that the whole burden of the assessment falls on her. If the said justices cannot settle the matter they are to report their opinion at the next General Sessions.

21. On the petition of John Bawditch and James Naish, churchwardens, and Thomas Hipposly, senior, and James Naysh, overseers, of the parish of Camely, shewing that there are divers poor families and aged persons in the parish who are unable to hire houses for themselves, and on reading a

writing whereby Richard Hippisly, Esq., lord of the fee of the waste in the parish, grants 2 lately erected cottages with garden plots in Temple in the said parish (one lately in possession of James Lynham, deceased, and the other, adjoining the house of Thomas Dowlis, the elder, lately in the possession of Rebecca Lynham, single woman, deceased) as dwellings for such poor persons of the parish as shall from time to time need them during the next 40 years; the Court orders that the 2 cottages be used as above for the next 21 years, and that Tobias Magges and Thomas Dowlis, the younger, who now possess them illegally, be forthwith removed therefrom, or else be bound over to the next General Sessions.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 16-18 April, 24 Charles II. [1672.]:

1. Account of William Blanchard of Catterne, Esq., treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1671.

Receipts, 128*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*

Payments, 126*l.* 7*s.*

2. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p.* 13], except that items (6) and (7) are reduced 2*d.* and item (8) 1*d.*

3. On reading an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, for the removal of John Bruncker from Whatley to Little St Martin's, London, and on an allegation by Bruncker that he has purchased a cottage in Whatley, which made him an inhabitant there, and on a counter-allegation by the parishioners of Whatley that the cottage is of too small a value to be deemed a settlement; the Court orders that both parties appear at the next General Sessions for a decision, Bruncker's remaining meanwhile in Whatley not being deemed a settlement.

4. Order for the absolute settlement of Robert Horwood in Hillbishoppes, notwithstanding a previous order by Edward

Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, for his removal from Curland to Staple Fitzpayne.

5. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Swell and Drayton, for the removal of John Penny from Swell to Drayton, and for his absolute settlement at the latter place ; as it appears that he was an apprentice with Thomas Ulfrye in the parish of Fivehead, with whom he had 10*l.* 12*s.*, and that after Ulfrye's death he lived at Drayton as a servant with John Watherall of Drayton, who married Emblyn, Ulfrye's widow and relict, for five years and more.

6. Confirmation of an order by Edward Phelipps, Esq., and Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justices, for the removal of John Sherry with his wife and children from Preston to Yeovell ; unless Yeovell can shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

7. Order that Mr. George Lyssant be discharged from Prudence, daughter of Humphrey Kinge of Wilton, who has been placed on him as an apprentice by the churchwardens and overseers of Wilton, and that no other apprentice be placed with him until Margery Kinge, another of Humphrey's daughters, (who was previously placed on him by the said churchwardens and overseers, and has been placed by him at his own costs with Henry Tanner of Taunton), reach the age of 21 years.

8. On a dispute between the parishes of Nettlecombe and Bishopps Lydeard touching the settlement of William Wilkins, who in July 1666 bound himself apprentice for 7 years with William Eastbrooke of Bishopps Lydeard and afterwards left his master because of ill usage and went to Christian Wilkins, his mother, who lived in Nettlecombe, in order to his recovery and not otherwise, where a warrant for his removal back to Bishopps Lydeard was procured by the officers of the parish ; the Court orders that the parishioners of Bishopps Lydeard, who have not come provided with full evidence,

do pay 30s. to the parishioners of Netlecombe for their expenses in attending at this Sessions, and that the dispute be respited until the next General Sessions.

9. On reading an order by Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Frances Melafshae with her 2 children from North Curry to Longe Sutton; the Court orders that her residence in North Curry shall not be accounted a settlement, but that the settlement shall be at Long Sutton.

10. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Trull and North Curry, that Mary Fox, who was removed by a previous order from Taunton Magdalen to Trull, shall remain at Trull without prejudice until the next General Sessions.

11. Order, on complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of Sanford Peverell, co. Devon, that John Thomas of Comesbury or Blagdon do pay them 2s. weekly towards the maintenance of the wife (*née* Joan Weely of Sampford Peverell) and 3 children of his deceased son, John Thomas, who are maimed and crippled and chargeable to the parish of Sanford in the monthly sum of 17s., unless at the next General Sessions he can shew good cause to the contrary; as the Court is given to understand that he is a man of good estate to the value of 80*l.* a year.

12. On complaint by Sythe, wife of William Hooper of Montague, that her husband has beaten her and turned her out of doors, and will not allow her any maintenance, although he has an estate of 50*l.* a year; the Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt and William Helyar, Esquires, justices, to convene Hooper before them and settle what weekly sum he shall pay for his wife's maintenance, and to bind him over to the next General Sessions in case of disobedience to their order.

13. Order that James Baber do pay 2s. weekly to the churchwardens and overseers of Froome Zelwood towards the maintenance of his grandchild, Jane Baber, whose father, John Baber, has run away leaving her chargeable to the parish, unless he will take her into his care and provide for her. In case of disobedience, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

14. On a petition from the inhabitants of the parish of Thorne Faulcon shewing that the common highways in the parish are very ruinous and cannot properly be repaired by means of the laws now in force ; the Court orders that one or more assessments be made by virtue of a late Act of Parliament as above [*p.* 104], and that the money so raised be employed on repairing and keeping up the said highways according to the directions of the two nearest justices.

15. Confirmation of an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and John Harrington and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, for the removal of William Hedges from Stanton Drew to Publoe ; and order accordingly.

16. Order that Margery Corby of Taunton St Magdalen, widow, William Gibbes of the same, serge-weaver, and John Bryan of Taunton St James, serge-weaver, do on sight hereof deliver up to William England peaceable possession of a messuage and tenement ; they having been indicted at this Sessions of having [entered the same] on 6 March, 24 Charles II, with force and arms, etc., and the Grand Jury having found and returned into Court the said indictment. In case of disobedience, the nearest justice or some other justice is to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

17. Order by William Lacy and John Turberville, Esquires, justices, for the maintenance of a base child of Mary Weye of Clotworthy ; Nicholas Webber of the same being the reputed father. Dated 1 April, 1672.

18. On complaint by William Knight of Kingstone that at a court of leet and lawday lately held for the hundred of Taunton and Taunton Deane he presented John Lewis, Richard Brindsmeade, Arthur Parsons and Christopher Dummett as suitable persons from among whom his successor as constable of the hundred might be chosen, in spite of which, the jury elected Mr. John Baker, who has gone or is soon going out of the county, as he has formerly done on the like occasion; the Court desires John Turberville, Edward Court and James Prowse, Esquires, justices, to swear Lewis to execute the said office, bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to do so, summon Baker before them by warrant if he returns to his dwelling in the county, and bind him over also.

19. On complaint that moneys are paid out of the public stock of the county by private orders, so that the justices cannot take notice thereof; the Court orders that no moneys shall be paid out by the treasurers of the hospitals or the treasurer of the maimed soldiers without motion made and order obtained in Court.

20. On complaint that Mr. John Maskall of Bedminster will not give any account of the public moneys in his hands; the Court orders that he give such account on the first day of the next General Sessions to the Court or any person appointed by them, and pay the moneys as directed. In default thereof, the nearest justice is to bind him over to the General Sessions next following.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 9-12 July, 24 Charles II. [1672.]

1. Discharge of a late order by William Bull and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Elizabeth Phlippen; as Joseph Cox, the reputed father, has compounded with the parishioners of Weston Zoyland for the maintenance of the child.

2. Order for the absolute settlement of John Bruncker at Whatly, as it appears that he purchased an estate in that parish and ought to be settled there. [See p. 116.]

3. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Yeovell and Preston, for the settlement of John Sherry at Yeovell; as the parishioners of Yeovell have failed to appear at this Sessions in accordance with the order made at Ilchester Sessions last [p. 117].

4. Order that Thomas Stooke be discharged from his office of bailiff of the hundred of Kingsebery West, in which office he has been very negligent and remiss, and has much abused the inhabitants of the hundred; and that the nearest justice swear William Hawkins of Fitzhead as bailiff.

5. Confirmation of an order by Francis Poulett, Esq., and Henry Deane, LL.D., justices, for the removal of Humphrey Gregory with his wife and family from St John's, Glaston, to Brewton; and order accordingly.

6. Order that George Quantock, late of Kingsebery, be discharged from his apprenticeship with John Dobbinet, as the apprenticeship is expired.

7. Discharge of an order by Robert Hawly and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Hugh Martin with his wife and children from Aishpryors to Bishopps Lydeard; and order that Martin, who rented a messuage and lands in Aishpryors of the yearly value of 14*l.*, and whose estate therein is not yet expired, be absolutely settled at Aishpryors.

8. Order by Robert Hunt and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Elizabeth Allen of Bawdripp, singlewoman; Abraham Seller, junior, of Bawdripp, being the reputed father. Dated 29 June, 1672.

9. Order for the absolute settlement of Mary Fox at Trull, as it is proved that she was an apprentice there for 7 years. [*See p. 118.*]

10. Order and declaration that the residence of John Dabb with his wife and family in the parish of Hinton St George, (whither he came as collector of Excise from St Gyles in Holborne, co. Middlesex), shall not be esteemed as a settlement, but that he shall dwell there without disturbance so long as he remains in his said office, and afterwards be removed back to St. Gyles.

11. Confirmation of the order made at last Ilchester Sessions touching the maintenance of the wife and children of John Thomas [*p. 118*]; as John Thomas, father of the said John Thomas, has failed to shew any cause to the contrary.

12. Confirmation of an order by Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Joan Balch, widow of Thomas Balch, with her children, from Combe St Nicholas to Chardstoke, co. Dorset; as the churchwardens and overseers of Chardstoke gave an undertaking to receive back Balch and his wife and family if they became chargeable at Combe, and Joan has become so chargeable since the death of her husband.

13. Order for the absolute settlement of Barbara Arner at Old Cleeve; she having lived there without disturbance for 6 months after leaving her service with James Butcher of St. Deacomans.

14. On information by John Baber and Richard Symons, constables of the hundred of Winterstoke for 1669, that the officers of the borough of Axbridge and parish and tithing of Worle and Kewstoke refuse to pay their proportions towards the repair of the back of Exebridge; the Court orders the said

officers to pay their proportions at once, and desires the nearest justice to bind them over to the next General Sessions if they fail to so so.

15. Order for the removal of Thomas Saunders from Weston Zoyland to Huntspill until the next General Sessions at Wells and until further order ; as it is alleged that he served as a covenant servant with William Martin of Huntspill for 7 weeks.

16. On reading an order by Francis Vaughan and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Moses Pether from Wedmore to East Brent ; the Court by consent orders that Pether remain without prejudice at Wedmore, unless the parishioners thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

17. Order for the absolute settlement of William Wilkins at Bishops Lydeard. [*See p. 117.*]

18. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 5*l.* to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, in part satisfaction of 15*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* disbursed by him on the repair of the said house.

The like order to the treasurer of the Western Division.

19. On a petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of Curry Rivell shewing that, by the mutual consent of James Fort, gentleman, since deceased, lord in fee of the soil or waste ground of their parish, and themselves, certain cottages (now in the possession of John Andrews, Edward Hayward, Josias Griffith and Richard Combestoke) were built at the charges of the parish to remain as houses for poor persons, and that the coheirs of Mr. Fort are endeavouring to turn out the abovenamed persons and appropriate the cottages to their respective uses ; the Court orders that the cottages shall continue to be houses for poor, weak and impotent people of the parish, as they were erected to be.

20. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals of the Eastern and Western Divisions to pay 3*l.* 3*s.* each to Mr. John Lockyer, undersheriff of the county, who has paid into the hands of Mr. Robert Hide 6*l.* as exhibition money due to the poor prisoners of the King's Bench and Marshalsea for the three years ending Midsummer last, and 6*s.* for acquittances for the same.

21. Order to the treasurer of the Western Division to pay 40*s.* to Mr. George Pepin towards his expenses about Ex Bridge.

22. Order for the raising of 40*l.* for the repair of the highways in the parish of Taunton Magdalen, in the same terms as the former order for Westmunkton [*p.* 104].

23. Order for the removal of Susanna Robins from Spaxton to Wembdon, and for her settlement at the latter place, unless the parishioners of Wembdon can shew good cause to the contrary at next Wells Sessions ; notwithstanding the order to the contrary made by Peregrine Palmer and William Bull, Esquires, justices. Order, also, by mutual consent, that whichever parish loses its case at the said Sessions shall pay taxed costs to the other.

24. On complaint by Bartholomew Sheppard of St Cuthbert's, Wells, and several others of the parish, that about 22*l.* have lately been levied from them by the undersheriff or his deputy for ameracements laid on the parish for non-repair of a highway which is since repaired, and that the inhabitants of the parish refuse to reimburse them or make a rate for raising the said sum ; the Court desires the two justices of the county nearest to the said parish, and also the justices of the city or borough of Wells, to make and confirm a rate for raising the said sum and other reasonable charges incurred by the complainants, and to cause the sum levied from the complainants to be paid to the churchwardens of the parish for the repair of

highways, if the amercements were levied for default of such repair, and to bind over any who are disobedient to their orders.

25. On complaint by Thomas Popham of Northpetherton, gentleman, that cattle to the value of 24*l.* were taken from him by John Slape of Ilchester and other bailiffs by virtue of a *feri facias* directed to them at the suit of Henry Lewis, clerk, who was formerly robbed in the hundred of Northpetherton, and that the inhabitants of the hundred have not yet given him any satisfaction for the cattle so taken ; the Court desires Francis Rolle, Knt., and Peregrine Palmer, William Bull and Robert Hunt, Esquires, to find what inhabitants of the hundred have not paid their proportions towards satisfaction of the judgement so obtained against the hundred, and rate them accordingly, and to find what moneys the bailiffs received and whether any remains in their hands over and above the said judgement, and to bind them over to the next General Assizes and Gaol Delivery, or to the next General Sessions, if they find any abuse or unhandsome dealings in executing the said process.

BATH SESSIONS. 8 October, 24 Charles II. [1672.]

1. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Charterhouse Hinton and Bradford, co. Wilts, for the removal of John Holbrooke to Bradford, and for his absolute settlement there.

2. Order that John Vallacott be discharged of Richard Palmer, a poor child of Bicknaller parish placed with him as an apprentice by an indenture approved by Sir John Mallett, Knt., and William Lacy, Esq., justices ; as it appears that he has no estate in the parish of such value as to warrant the placing of an apprentice on him, and that the said justices were misinformed when they signed the indenture.

3. Reference to John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, of a petition from Lawrence Forshaw on behalf of Lady Ann Kingsmell, as above [*p.* 115].

4. Order for the absolute settlement of Moses Pether at Wedmore. [*See p.* 123.]

5. On complaint by the inhabitants of Raddon that Baunmill Bridge in their parish is out of repair, and it being unknown by what parish or place it should be repaired ; the Court desires Sir Edward Hungerfield (*sic*), K.B., Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., Sir George Horner, Knt., Sir William Bassett, Knt., Sir James Hayes, Knt., and Warwick Bampffield and John Hannington (*sic*), Esquires, justices, to view the bridge and see that it is repaired by those who ought to do so.

6. On a dispute between the parishioners of Stogumber and Thomas Blackwell of the same, who has prayed that he may be discharged of Robert Exon, a poor child of the parish who has been placed with him as an apprentice, (as appears by an indenture approved by Sir John Mallet, Knt., and William Lacy, Esq., justices), as he is but a 'justmente renter' in the parish and his estate therein nearly determined ; the Court orders that the apprentice remain with him so long as he holds the tenement or farm now in his possession, and no longer. If he refuses, the said justices are desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

7. Order for the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 5*l.* 11*s.* 11½*d.* to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction in Taunton, in part satisfaction of 11*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* spent by him on the repair of the house, as John Turberville, Esq., justice, has informed the Court.

The like order for the treasurer of the Eastern Division.

8. Appointment of Henry How of West Buckland as constable of the hundred of Kingsebery West in the place of Richard Fleete, who has served for a year and more ; and order that

How repair within a week to some justice and take the oath to execute the office under penalty of 10*l*. On complaint to any justice of his refusal to do so, he is to be bound over to the next General Sessions.

9. Order that within a fortnight Mr. Thomas Lockyer, undersheriff, do make a return to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, of the names of all persons who have procured and been allowed writs of *Ne ponend'* exempting them from jury service at the Assizes and Sessions during the sheriffwick of William Strode, Esq., high sheriff; as complaint has been made that many persons who are not infirm or 70 years old have procured such writs.

WELLS SESSIONS. 14 January, 24 Charles II. [1673.]

1. Order made at Cumpton Pauncefoote by Francis Wyndham and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Eleanor Gunninge, single woman, born at North Brewham; Thomas Crane of Hatspen being the reputed father. Dated 31 October, 1672.

2. On hearing a dispute between Samuel Hill, clerk, curate of the parish church of Seavington, and several inhabitants of the parish and adjacent neighbours, touching a conventicle alleged to have been held in the said church about September last, by reason whereof some of the said inhabitants by the prosecution of Mr. Hill in pursuance of a late Act of Parliament caused a sum of money to be levied by way of distress on one of the said parties, and others are threatened with further payments; the Court orders that the matter be referred for settlement to Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, who are to report at the next General Sessions if they cannot determine the matter. In the meantime Mr. Walrond and all other justices and others are to refrain from further proceedings in the matter.

3. The Court, being fully satisfied that the common highways, causeys and bridges in the parish of Wells are so decayed that they cannot be properly repaired by means of the laws in force before 22 Charles II. without the help of the Act then made for the better repairing of highways and bridges, orders that an assessment be made and collected by the surveyors of highways on all property usually rateable to the poor according to the value of one rate usually payable to the poor, and that the money be used for the above repairs. The surveyors are to account to Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., the two nearest justices, who are to see that this order is duly executed.

4. On a petition from the inhabitants of Charleton Adam shewing that Abraham Barnes of the said parish is a very dangerous, idle and disorderly person, putting the petitioners to great charge and expense in relieving him, delighting himself wholly in an idle course of life, and vending up and down in the country most horrid blasphemy to the dishonour of Almighty God ; the Court orders that Barnes be sent to the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet for detention until he be delivered by order of a justice, and that the churchwardens and overseers of Charleton Adam pay 1s. a week towards his maintenance there.

5. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 20s. to Merven Hales for the use of William Browne of Portbury, a poor maimed soldier.

6. A like order for Humphrey Facy of Berrow to have 20s.

7. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 5*l.* to Thomas James, governor of Langport hospital, as the Court is informed that that sum will "in-differently well repair the hospital for the present." The governor is to account to Jonathan Pittes and Thomas Jennings, Esquires, for the disposal of the money.

8. Confirmation of an order by John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Grace Wood, single woman, from Burnett to Stone Easton.

9. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 20s. to Thomas Evercreech, a poor aged soldier.

10. The like order for Thomas Wickham of Henton, a poor aged soldier.

11. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Dunkerton and Camerton, for the absolute settlement of Jane Clarke at Dunkerton, where she was settled in the house of Thomas Smith by a warrant of several justices.

12. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 3*l.* to Hugh Jones of Batcombe, who has shewn that through his loyalty to Charles I. he has lost his estate, being for several years under sequestration, and is now reduced to a mean and low condition. On receipt of the said sum Jones has promised not to petition for more relief.

13. Order that the parishioners of Swanswicke do pay to Richard Panton or his assigns the arrears of the 1*s.* 6*d.* weekly which they were ordered to pay him towards the maintenance of Joshua Panton, his bastard grandson, by an order made at Wells Sessions, 12 January, 20 Charles II [*p.* 58], and do also pay him or his assigns the same sum weekly until the child be 8 years old ; as on a dispute between the said Richard and the parishioners of Swanswicke, (who noticed that by some mistake or omission the fact that the order was made by consent of both parties was not mentioned in the order, although several justices who were then present have declared in open court that it was so made), the orders and proceedings thereon were removed by *Certiorari* to the Court of King's Bench, and the justices there were pleased to declare their rule and opinion that the justices of Somerset might proceed on the said order

until further order. If the overseers of Swanswicke fail to obey this order, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

14. On information that divers Irish cattle, both sheep and oxen, have been landed in the parish of Huntspill, and that Henry Gatchell of West Munckton, who is suspected to have had a hand therein, has been bound over to the next General Assizes and Gaol Delivery to answer therefor ; the Court desires William Bull and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to bind over such persons as they shall think fit to give evidence for the King at the said Assizes, and any other persons implicated in the landing.

15. Order by William Lacy and John Turberville, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Mary Smale of Lyddeard St Lawrence, spinster ; the reputed father being Richard Petty of the same parish, husbandman. Dated 11 January, 1672-3.

16. Confirmation of an order by Sir Hugh Windham, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices, for the removal of George Hobbs from Treborrough to Old Cleeve, the place of his last settlement ; and order accordingly.

17. Order for the absolute settlement of Thomas Saunders at Huntspill. [See p. 123.]

18. The Court, being fully satisfied that the common highways of the hamlet and tithing of North Curry are very ruinous and cannot properly be repaired by means of the laws now in force, orders that an assessment be made for the repair thereof by virtue of a late Act of Parliament as above [p. 104], and that the same be made and collected by the surveyors of highways before 25 March next, after being allowed by the two nearest justices.

19. On a petition by Mary, wife of Marmaduke Whelliar *alias* Copp of Fivehead, shewing that her husband has abused her, turned her out of doors, and refused her any maintenance, so that she is now reduced to great want and likely to perish, being aged and weak and unable to get her living by labour, and having no friends to relieve her ; the Court orders that Marmaduke pay her 2s. a week until further order, unless he will receive her back and provide for her as a loving husband is by nature bound to do. If he refuses obedience, Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, are desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

20. On complaint by Thomas Zugg of the parish of Trent that, although he is a man of very mean estate, he was elected at the court after Michaelmas last by Mr. Williams, the steward, to be one of the constables for the hundred of Charleton Horethorne ; the Court discharges him of the office, as it appears on oath and by a certificate of Francis Wyndham, Esq., that his estate in expectancy is not above 10*l.* per annum, and even then subject to the payment of 120*l.* and 5 marks per annum during his mother's life. The Court also desires Mr. Wyndham to swear Thomas Emblyn of Sandford Orcas to execute the office, he having been presented at the said court as a fit person, and to bind him over to the next General Quarter Sessions in case of disobedience ; and also to bind over Mr. Williams to the same Sessions, as it appears that notice of Zugg's insufficiency was given to him by two justices, and that he told Zugg that complaining to the justices was not the way to get discharge, but that if he would give him thirty or forty shillings he might be discharged, or otherwise he would levy the penalty of 5*l.* on him.

21. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Wynecaunton to bind over to the next General Sessions George Vyneinge of Wynecaunton, yeoman, one of the constables in the borough of Wynecaunton ; as the Court is informed that

he refused to assist George Leare, constable of the hundred of Norton Ferris, in executing a warrant by the Hon. Lord Fitzhardinge and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, against Robert Kinge of Wynecaunton.

22. Discharge of an order made at last Ivelchester Sessions in favour of Mr. George Lissant [*p.* 117], unless at the next General Sessions he shew good cause to the contrary; as the parishioners of Wilton have alleged that the said order was grounded on untrue information given by Lissant.

23. Order by Francis Windham and Robert Hunt, justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Edith Evill, singlewoman, born at Rimpleton; Edward Beaton of Weston Bampfild, yeoman, being the reputed father. Dated at Compton Pauncefoote, 31 October, 1672.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 8 April, 25 Charles II. [1673.]

1. Order by Edward Phelipps, Esq., and Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Mary Chante; John Lynterne of Odcombe being the reputed father. Dated 8 April, 1673.

2. Certificate by William Bull and Robert Hunt, justices, that Edmund Smith, gentleman, one of the searchers and surveyors of the Excise in the county, has taken the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, as well as the oath prescribed by the Acts relating to the Excise. Dated 28 February, 1672-3.

3. Appointment of James Carrent of Tomer in the parish of Henstridge, Esq., to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division for the coming year, in place of Kingsmell Lucy of Castle Cary, Esq.

4. Appointment of Thomas Ledgingham of Taunton to be treasurer of the hospitals for the Western Division, in place of John Every, Esq.

5. Appointment of Richard Churchay of Wynectaunton to be treasurer for the maimed soldiers, in place of John Prowse of Axbridge, Esq.

6. Order that Prudence Kinge be henceforth absolutely settled and placed an apprentice with George Lyssant until she be 21 years old. [See pp. 117, 132.]

7. Licence for John Odber of Southcheriton, a very poor man, to erect a cottage on the waste ground of the parish of Horseington and dwell therein for 60 years, if he live so long ; Robert Gapper, gentleman, lord in fee of the said waste ground, having given his consent. After 60 years the cottage is to remain to the inhabitants of the parish of Horseington, as the law directs.

8. The Court, being fully satisfied that the common highways in the parish of Yeovell are so decayed that they will not be repaired properly by means of the laws now in force, orders that an assessment be made and assessed for the repair thereof by the present surveyors of the highways, as above [p. 104], who are to give an account of their doings to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt.

9. Order for the commitment of Edith Evill to the House of Correction of Shepton Mallet for a year, there to be set to hard labour and to receive such correction by whipping as the law requires. [See p. 132.]

10. On a dispute between the parishioners of Thurloxton and Joan Dible of the same, widow, touching the placing of Joan Bastable, a poor child, daughter of William Bastable of the same, as an apprentice with her, the widow alleging that she has a very small estate, while there are many great estates in the parish without any apprentices placed on them, and that she was discharged of the said apprentice at a privy session at Bridgewater ; the Court orders that the whole dispute as it stood before the privy session be referred back to Peregrine

Palmer, William Bull, Robert Hawly, William Clarke and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, who are to do what shall be agreeable to law.

11. The Court desires Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., John Buckland, John Harrington, Peter Roynon, Joseph Langton and ———, Esquires, justices, to settle a dispute between the parishioners of Paulton and William Brewer of Trowbridge, co. Wilts, clothier, touching the rating of the latter for the poor in respect of a farm which he has in Paulton; the parishioners having rated the farm at 162*l.* per annum, whereas he alleges that the same in his possession does not exceed 34*l.* per annum, the whole farm not being worth more than 120*l.* per annum. If the justices cannot settle the dispute, they are to report to the next General Sessions.

12. On complaint by the constables and other officers of the borough of Taunton, (the consideration of which was recommended to the Court by the Judge at the last Assizes), that the market held in the borough on Saturdays is often carried on until midnight and sometimes until nearly 1 o'clock on Lord's Day morning, whereby late resorting unto and drinking and tippling in inns and alehouses, and other disorders, are very much occasioned in the night, and often on the Lord's Day morning, to the dishonour of God, the hindrance of the due observance of the Lord's Day, the great disturbance of the inhabitants of the borough living near the market place, and the occasioning of very much trouble to the officers of the borough; the Court orders that the said market be shut up and ended at 10 o'clock at latest, and that any persons offending in the matter be bound over to the next General Sessions by the nearest justice or justices. The bailiffs of the borough are to publish this order once a month in open market.

13. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p.* 116], except that items 3, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17 are

reduced 2*d.*, and items 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 are reduced 1*d.*

14. Account of Kingsmell Lucye of Castle Carye, Esq., treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1672.

Receipts, 112*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*

Payments, 106*l.* 4*s.* 7½*d.*

15. Account by Philip Ball, deputy for John Every, Esq., treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, for 1672.

Receipts, 103*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

Payments, 103*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

16. Account of Thomas Creech, deputy to John Prowse of Axbridge, Esq., treasurer for the maimed soldiers, for 1672.

Receipts, 740*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*

Payments, 666*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

17. Order for payment by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, of 4*l.* disbursed by him on repairs.

18. The like order for the Western Division to pay 3*l.*

19. The Court desires Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and Robert Hunt, William Hellier and Edward Bampfild, Esquires, justices, to discover whether the bridge called Barr Mill Bridge in the parish of Rodden, (which is so decayed and out of repair that travellers cannot pass it without great danger), ought to be repaired at the charge of the county or by the parishioners and inhabitants living near it ; and to take speedy steps that it may be repaired.

20. On complaint by several inhabitants of the county of divers abuses used by bailiffs who keep public inns and ale-houses, who out of an avaricious mind to enrich themselves attach

and arrest the king's subjects and carry them away to their own houses, not allowing them to send for bail or compound with their creditors until they are lodged there, whereby such poor persons are forced to spend great sums in the said bailiffs' houses to purchase their liberties; the Court orders that all bailiffs who have been granted licences to sell beer and ale shall have their licences absolutely voided, and desires the nearest or any other justice to bind over to the next General Sessions any bailiff who shall presume for the future to expose any beer, ale, cider or perry, or any other liquors, for sale in his house or elsewhere in the county.

21. Reference to Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Thomas Warr, John Turberville, Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between the inhabitants of Langport Eastover and Gregory Stocke touching the repair of Standmoore Bridge in the parish of Gregory Stocke over the river Toone; it being alleged that the inhabitants of Taunton, Drayton, Curry Rivell, Westhatch, Northcurry, Aller, High Ham and Huish ought to contribute to the repair thereof, and that Langport Eastover has been overcharged for such repair. If the justices find that all or any of the said parishes ought to contribute, they are desired to fix reasonable proportions for assessment on such parishes by a pound rate or otherwise, and if Langport Eastover shall disburse any moneys in the meantime for the repair of the bridge, it shall not prejudice them in future.

22. Order by Sir Edward Phellipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr, justices, (to whom the matter of a conventicle held at Sevington parish church by a Mr. Butler was referred at Wells Sessions last), to the constables of the hundred of Southpether-ton and the tithingman, churchwardens and overseers of Sevington, and all others concerned, to forbear all further levying of money on the goods of Thomas Hutchins of Sevington, who was convicted of being at the said conventicle and fined 10*l.*; as on information given by Thomas Dunstar,

John Lucocke, John Hodges and others it appears that Hutchins frequents his own and other parish churches when service is held there, and is innocent of designing to be guilty of the offence of being at the conventicle.

23. Order that the parishioners of Ruishton *alias* Riston do deliver up to those of Bromefeild the security which the latter gave to discharge Riston from Alce Farmer, widow, and John, Laurence, Mary and Alce, her sons and daughters, in accordance with an order by John Turbervile and Edward Court, Esquires, justices; as it appears by a certificate of several parishioners of Bromfeild that they have received the said persons and provided for them as their poor.

24. Order for payment by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to Thomas Heath, master and governor of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett, of 24s. 6d. disbursed on repairing a handmill and other repairs in the said house.

25. The Court, taking notice of several misdemeanors committed by clerks belonging to the justices in presuming to come on the Bench and there taking upon them to talk, which doth not become them, and in keeping recognisances in their pockets and not filing them until towards the end of the Session, orders that for the future no such clerk shall come on the Bench without being called thereto, and that all such clerks file their recognisances on the first day of the Sessions, on pain of losing all *debets* due to them thereon.

26. Order by Robert Hawley and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Mary Painter of Thurlebeere, singlewoman; the reputed father being William Brooke, junior, of the same parish, carrier. Dated 4 July, 1673.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 15 July, 25 Charles II. [1673.]

1. Discharge of an order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of John Burnard and Margaret, his wife, from Bicknell to Hatch Beachampe, and order for the removal of John and Margaret from the latter place to Westhatch; on information that Burnard was last legally settled at Westhatch, where he served his apprenticeship with Robert Burrell of that place, and that he was never settled at Hatch Beachampe.

2. Confirmation of an order by Edward Bampefeild, John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of William Fullaway from Beckington to Westbury, co. Wilts; and order accordingly.

3. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Buckland St Mary and Chardland, for the absolute settlement of Thomas Austen at Chardland, whither he was removed from Otterford by warrant of Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices.

4. Order for the discharge of William Collins, Christopher Pittard, Walter Hodges, Agnes Colser, David Webber, Mary Webber and John Coate, who were committed to the county gaol by virtue of several writs *de excommunicato capiendo* returnable at Westminster on several days before 25 March, 1673, they being all excommunicated for contumacy in not appearing at the Ecclesiastical Court of the late Bishop of Bath and Wells; as it has pleased the King to pardon them.

5. Order that Peter Downe receive back William Partridge, son of Henry Partridge, late of Crewkerne, and provide for him as his apprentice for the remainder of the period of 10 years mentioned in an indenture of apprenticeship between Peter and Mary, his wife, and the said William. The Court desires the nearest justice to bind Peter over to the next General Sessions in case of disobedience.

6. Confirmation of an order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Francis Kidner from Merriott to Norton under Hambdon, and order accordingly; as it appears that Kidner's banns were published in the parish church of Norton and not excepted against.

7. Confirmation of the above order touching Edith Evill's bastard daughter [*p.* 132]; and order that Edward Beaton give security to the churchwardens and overseers of Rimpton to discharge them from the said child, and also pay them 40s. for their expenses in prosecuting him for disobedience to the said order. If he disobey the present order, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

8. The Court desires Sir Halsewell Tynt, Bart., Robert Hunt, William Bull, Robert Hawley, Edward Court and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, to examine into the truth of a petition from Eleanor Watts, widow, setting forth that the inhabitants of Pawlett refuse to pay her 6*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* which Philip Watts, her late husband, disbursed on the repair of Pawlett church when he was churchwarden there; and to cause speedy payment to be made to her of what shall be found due. Any persons disobeying their order are to be bound over to the next General Sessions.

9. On information that the highways in the tithing of Horton and parish of Ilmister are very ruinous and decayed, although the inhabitants of the tithing have done the days' work required of them by law, and that thereupon some of the said inhabitants by consent made an equal rate on all the inhabitants and occupiers of lands in the tithing, which rate was approved by Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, and that nevertheless some persons refuse to pay their assessments; the Court orders that Edward Wall, surveyor of the said highways, do collect the said rate and employ it on repairing the highways, and that any persons refusing or neglecting to pay be bound over by the said justices to the next General Sessions.

10 Admission of John Lantrow of Bawdripp, now dwelling in St Martin's in the Fields in Middlesex, who has served as a foot soldier in the King's regiment of Guards but is disabled by age from serving any longer, to a pension of 40s. yearly as from the next General Sessions.

11. Order for payment of 40s. by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to William Bawler in respect of losses received by his father in the late wars.

12. Order for payment of 20s. by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to — Browne of Portbury.

13. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of West Lydford and St John's in Glaston, for the settlement of a base child of Jane Williams at West Lydford, unless the parishioners of the latter place shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions and pay the taxed costs of the parishioners of St John's in attending the said Sessions. Order, also, for payment by the parishioners of St John's of 2s. weekly to the churchwardens and overseers of West Lydford for the maintenance of the said child. In case of disobedience, the nearest justice to Glaston is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

14. Order to the Sheriff or his deputy, or the Clerk of the Peace for Somerset, to be communicated to the justices on or before the first day of the next Quarter Sessions, requiring the justices to continue the Quarter Sessions by adjournment from day to day or from place to place until 1 August, 1673, so that the king's subjects may be enabled to take the oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, and do such other things as are required by the Act of 25 Charles II. intituled "An Act for preventing dangers which may happen from Popish Recusants."

15. On information that divers persons living in and near Ivelchister are too weak and infirm to travel to Bridgwater to take the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy and subscribe

the declaration required by the late Act ; the Court orders that the present Sessions be adjourned to Ivelchister on Monday and Tuesday next, the 21st and 22nd of July, and from there back again to Bridgwater from the 23rd July to the 1st August.

ILCHESTER.

16. Order adjourning the Sessions at Ivelchister from Tuesday, 22 July, until Wednesday following ; as divers persons repaired to Ivelchister in accordance with the previous order and have put in their certificates to the number of 100 or more, some of them very aged persons, and have in open court desired to be here despatched, but could not in so short a time be discharged.

ILCHESTER

17. Order adjourning the Sessions at Ivelchister to Wells for Thursday and Friday, the 24th and 25th July, as many persons living in and near Wells are unable to travel to Bridgwater to take the said oaths etc.

18. Reference to William Bull and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, by consent, of a dispute between the parishes of Gregory Stocke and Lynge touching the seizure of upwards of 60 Irish sheep by Richard Dibble, a constable, and others of the parish of Gregory Stocke ; it appearing to the Court that the seizure was first made by Dibble and the others in the parish of Gregory Stocke, and that Dibble, contriving to prevent the profit of the seizure from belonging to the poor of the said parish, as is directed by a late Act, conveyed the sheep by night to the parish of Lynge, so that the forfeiture might accrue to that parish. The said justices are desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who disobey their award.

19. Order by Thomas Holt, D.D., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of

Joan Brice, single woman, born at West Lidford ; Thomas Aishman of Peridge in the parish of Pilton, yeoman, being the reputed father. Dated at Compton Pauncfoote, 23 June, 1673.

BATH SESSIONS. 7 October, 25 Charles II. [1673.]

1. Order for payment of 40s. by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to the overseers of Curry Rivell towards their expenses on the poor people in the almshouse of St Mary Magdalen there.

2. On information that the governor of the hospital of St Mary Magdalen in Curry Rivell has run away, leaving the poor people therein unprovided for, and that through his neglect the hospital has of late years been greatly damaged in its revenues ; the Court desires Sir Edward Phellipps, Knt., and Ralph Stawell, Thomas Warr, Robert Hunt, Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, to inspect the said revenues, consider whether they have been abused and not employed according to the intent of the founder or founders, and whether there are more people there than were intended, and settle a fit governor there, reporting to the next General Sessions.

3. Order for payment by the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to John Chislett and Anthony Sputt, both of Norton subter Hambdon, of 15s. each.

4. The like to the treasurer of the Western Division.

5. Reference to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Ralph Stawell, William Bull and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, of the dispute between the parishes of Gregory Stoake and Linge which was referred to William Bull and Robert Hunt at last Bridgwater Sessions [*p.* 141] ; as the two latter justices, by reason of the distance of their abodes, could not meet for the purpose

6. Reference to Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, of a petition from the parishioners of West Hatch praying that the order made at Bridgewater Sessions last for the removal of John Barnard and Margaret, his wife, to their parish [*p.* 138], may be discharged, as they had no notice to attend and make their defence when the order was made. If they cannot settle the matter they are to report to the next General Sessions.

7. On a dispute among the inhabitants of the tything of Cumpton Dundoe touching the office of tithingman, from which some of the inhabitants claim exemption, and on the motion of Mr. Nevill, of counsel with those who serve against those who claim exemption ; the Court, inasmuch as a bare allegation of exemption by custom is not sufficient, and the claimants have failed to shew any other cause for exemption, orders that Edward Singer of Cumpton Dundoe, who is now chosen tythingman, shall execute that office, and that the other claimants of exemption shall also serve when called upon, until they shew the Court good cause to the contrary.

8. Discharge of an order by Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., and Joseph Langton, Esq., justices, for the removal of Richard Pope from Saltford to Corston ; and order for the removal of Pope back to Saltford, where he appears to have lived 7 weeks without disturbance, and for his absolute settlement there.

9. Discharge of an order by Sir Hugh Smith, Knt. and Bart., and Thomas Piggott, Edward Gorges and Richard Morgan, Esquires, justices, for the removal of John Hancock from Wrington to St Thomas's, Bristol ; and reference to two justices nearest to Wrington of a dispute among the parishioners of that parish touching the security given by Hancock against his becoming chargeable there : as some of the aforesaid justices have declared in open court that they were surprised by wrong information in making the said order, and several of the inhabitants of Wrington have certified that Hancock

is not chargeable to them or likely to be, as he has given security to indemnify the parish, although others consider the security insufficient.

10. Order for payment of 4*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* to the overseers of Cudworth by Thomas Wellman and Matthew Staple, or one of them, for their contempt in refusing or neglecting to pay 2*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* which at a Petty Sessions held at Hinton St George before Thomas Warr and Henry Wallrond, Esquires, justices, they engaged to pay towards the discharge of the parish of Cudworth from Agnes Saunders and her bastard child, of which Wellman is the reputed father. In case of disobedience to this order, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

11. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Wilton, co. Wilts, and Brewton, co. Somerset, for the removal of Ann Smale, with her bastard daughter born at Fisherton Anger, co. Wilts, from Brewton to Wilton for settlement ; as it appears to the Court that she was placed apprentice in Wilton, where she lived for several weeks without disturbance and was committed by the mayor of Wilton to the House of Correction for not taking a master, as appears by a copy of the *Mittimus* read in Court.

12. Order that Robert Wastfeild of Brislington be discharged from his office of constable of the in-hundred of Keynesham, he having previously been elected tithingman in the parish of Brislington ; and request to the nearest justice to swear John Saunders of Chewton Keynesham as constable of the hundred, and bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

13. Order that Thomas Fry be discharged from his apprenticeship with Allen Moggeridge of Somerton, silkweaver ; as Joan Fry, widow, the boy's mother, has complained that Moggeridge has so inordinately beaten her son that he is likely to become a cripple and lose the use of one of his arms.

Moggeridge is to pay Joan the 6*l.* which she gave him with her son, and the nearest justice is to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses.

14. The Court, on viewing the estreat book, orders that the recognizances therein mentioned be respited until the next General Sessions, and that in the meantime the Clerk of the Peace or his deputy do write to the constables of the respective hundreds requiring them to give notice to the persons concerned that they are to shew good cause at the said Sessions why their recognizances should not be estreated, failing which the recognizances are to be certified to the Court of Exchequer that legal proceedings may be had thereon. Inasmuch as the hundred jurors have made a full appearance and no jury is wanting for default of jurors, the Clerk and his deputy are not to estreat any hundred jurors for default.

15. Order by William Bull and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Ann Tucker of Chelton, widow, Robert Jeffery, junior, of Huntspill, yeoman, being the reputed father. Dated 6 October, 1673.

16. Order for payment of 40*s.* by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to William Mitton of Roade.

17. The like order for Edward Masters of Pilton for 20*s.*

18. Receipts for conventicles:—

From William Bull, Esq., justice, for a conventicle at Eddington on 9 July, 1673. 5*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

From William Lacy, Esq., for one at Wiviliscombe on 8 June last. 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

From the same for the same conventicle. 10*s.* 0*d.*

From the same for the like, levied from Joseph Stocker. 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

From Henry Wallrond, Esq., for a conventicle in the house of Frolick Bayly at Hunton St George. 10*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

From the same for a conventicle in the house of Jo. Pitt at Norton under Hambden. 13*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

From the same for a conventicle in the barn of Joseph Holmes of Ilmister. 11*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

From John Prowse, Esq., for a conventicle at Chedder in the house of Smith. 2*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

From Edward Clarke, Esq., for a conventicle in the house of Th. Darch at Stawley. 7*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*

From the same for a conventicle in the house of James Harcombe. 13*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

The said sums are paid by the Court to the Sheriff.

WELLS SESSIONS, 13 January, 25 Charles II. [1674.]

1. The Court, taking notice that unsuitable persons are frequently empanelled in juries, some being of such small estate that they cannot well attend, and others through corruption or ignorance giving verdicts contrary to the evidence and the Judge's decision, orders that the bailiffs of the several hundreds and liberties repair to the nearest justices with lists of the freeholders in their bailiwicks, which lists are to be corrected and subscribed by the justices, unfit persons being struck out, and that the corrected lists be transmitted by the bailiffs to the sheriff or undersheriff, who are to take special care that only able, sufficient and honest jurors be empanelled during the ensuing year, and that no writs of *Ne ponend'* be allowed except for aged and infirm persons. The Court fully intends severely to punish any persons found peccant or remiss in this matter.

2. Order that all the ditches and water-courses adjoining the common highways in the county be well cleansed and scoured by the persons and places concerned before 10 March next. The justices are desired to summon before them any persons who are delinquent in the matter, and bind them over to the next General Sessions unless they show good cause to the contrary.

3. The Court, taking notice of the abuses caused not only by badgers and millers who buy corn at the beginning of markets to sell the same again at a profit, but also by persons who keep great quantities of corn at home, whereby the price is much enhanced and the poor are often put to much trouble and hardship to get supplies, orders that henceforth no such badger, miller or other person shall buy corn in any market until the poor are well served. The justices are desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who disobey this order, and the officers of every market town are required to see that the order is duly observed.

4. It appearing that a writ of *Distringas ad amovendum nocumentum* of last Sessions was issued to the sheriff against James Grimsby, upon which the sheriff has returned 40s. issues, and on oath made in Court that Grimsby has now removed the nuisance of which he was convicted ; the Court orders that all further proceedings in the matter shall cease, and that the issues returned be not estreated.

5. On a dispute between the parishes of Ditcheatt and East Pennard touching John Pittman, formerly of East Pennard, who has been placed as apprentice with Richard Cole of Ditcheatt, tailor, a very poor man, and is likely to become chargeable at Ditcheatt before he is out of his apprenticeship ; the Court by consent orders that if Pittman becomes chargeable, he shall be sent back to East Pennard in accordance with a previous order by Robert Hunt, Esq., and Thomas Holt, D.D., justices, but not otherwise, and that the 3*l.* remaining to be paid to Cole with his said apprentice be paid forthwith.

6. Discharge of an order by Maurice, Viscount Fitzhardinge, and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, for the removal of John Stephens from Shepton Mountague to East Pennard ; and order that Stephens with his wife and family be removed back to Shepton and settled there ; as it appears on oath that he remained there more than 40 days without disturbance.

7. Order that Matthew Everett of Evercreech, who has very much abused Edward Berkeley of Pill, Esq., in scurrilous language, do make public confession thereof on some Sunday after divine service and sermon in Evercreech church as Mr. Berkeley shall direct ; failing which, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

8. On information that the offenders in the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett are not constantly employed or allowed sufficient for their labour ; the Court orders that the keeper of the said house do provide all things necessary to keep them at work, and especially a handmill, and also give them sufficient allowance for their pains, either by wages (according to Statute) or else by allowing them as much as they earn, and that, in the case of those who have poor families left on their parishes, he keep back the overplus of their wages above what will suffice to maintain them, and pay it to the overseers of the said parishes. If he fail in this, the Court will proceed against him for breach of the laws and his trust.

9. Discharge of William Spurrell of Bishopp Liddeard from his apprenticeship with Nicholas Templeman of West Chinnock, sackcloth weaver, who cannot maintain him or set him to work, so that he is likely to perish.

10. The Court desires John Turbervill, Esq., justice, to summon before him John Dudderidge and order him to give security for discharge of the parish of Lawrence Liddeard from a bastard child of his by Joan Cridland, widow ; and if he fails to do so, to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

11. Order for payment by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to Henry Daniell of Brislington and William Bush of Keynesham of 20s. each.

12. The Court desires Robert Hunt, Ralph Stawell and Thomas Warr, Esquires, justices, to examine a complaint by William Hipposly, Gabriel Hipposly, John Stroude and others

of West Lidford that, whereas they were commanded by virtue of a Hue and Cry to search for a mare stolen from the common pound at Glaston, and found the same at West Lidford, and the mare was put in the lord's pound at Lidford as stolen goods and shortly afterwards killed, one William Pinckard of West Lidford, who claims the mare as his, has prosecuted them and caused Gabriel, John, Edward Brice and Richard Magges to be arrested by virtue of a *Capias utlagat'*, and they have been forced to pay 17*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* to Mr John Lockyer of Ivelchester, Pinckard's attorney, for their release. If they cannot settle the matter, the justices are to bind the parties over to next Assizes and Gaol Delivery.

13. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals to pay 5*l.* to the overseers of Curry Rivell towards the maintenance of the poor people in the hospital of S^t Mary Magdalen in the parish of Curry Rivell.

14. Confirmation of an order by Francis Drewe and John Willoughby, Esquires, justices of Devon, for the removal of George Winter with his wife and family from Hemiock, co. Devon ; and order that Winter be removed to Wellington and settled there, in accordance with an undertaking by several parishioners of Wellington to receive him back as one of their poor.

15. Order for the removal of John Bernard and Margaret, his wife, from West Hatch to Hatch Beachampe, and for their absolute settlement at the latter place ; as it appears from a certificate by Thomas Warr and Henry Wallrond, Esquires, justices, that John lodged weekly at Hatch Beachampe for the greater part of 4 months without legal disturbance.

16. Order to the treasurers of the hospitals to pay to Henry Nicholls of Kingsbrimpton, clerk, 40*s.* paid by him to the Collector of the Greenwax by virtue of process out of the Court of Exchequer against the inhabitants of the county.

17. The Court, taking notice that the unseasonableness of the weather by reason of the great and continuing rains has occasioned within the kingdom, and especially in this county, a very great rot and destruction among the sheep and other great cattle, which in every part of the country die in infinite numbers and are suffered by the owners to remain dead above ground, whereby the air is likely to become corrupt and by means thereof many infectious diseases are very likely to happen amongst the king's subjects, orders that the owners of all cattle dying of disease do have them buried 3 foot deep within 24 hours of death. The nearest justices are to bind over offenders against this order to the next General Sessions, and the sheriff is to have the order published in time of open market in all market towns.

18. On information that, notwithstanding a previous order, many licences to keep alehouses have been lately granted by several justices to persons living outside their respective divisions, whereby many unsuitable persons have been licensed ; the Court orders that no such licences be granted in future by any justices to persons living out of their divisions, nor to any persons living in their divisions except at the Privy Sessions for the respective divisions or in open Quarter Sessions, and that all licences otherwise granted shall be void.

19. Confirmation of an order by Thomas Warr and Henry Wallrond, Esquires, justices, for the removal of William Cookesly and Edith, his wife, from Crewkerne to Chardland ; and order accordingly.

20. Postponement until next General Sessions of a dispute between the parishes of Priddy and St Cuthbert's in Wells touching the settlement of Michael Burgesse, who is said to have been legally disturbed at Priddy by warrant from John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices ; as the said warrant is not now produced, nor proof given that the officers of St Cuthbert's were served with it before the beginning of this Sessions.

In the meantime Burgesse with his wife and children is to remain at Priddy.

21. On a dispute between the hundred of Northpetherton and the town of Bridgewater with Haygrove, the Court orders that the order made at Bridgewater General Quarter Sessions, 8 Charles I., and another order dated 22 February, 1643-4, by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and others, be confirmed, and that in future Bridgewater with Haygrove pay a full third of all rates and taxes imposed on the hundred.

22. Whereas by the death of Lord Clifford the court leet for the hundred of Cannington was not held as usually, but the jurors agreed that Francis Knight of Aisholt and James Day of Stogursey were fit persons to serve as constables in succession to Robert Burnoll and William Webber; the Court desires William Clarke, Esq., justice, to summon Knight and Day to take their oaths to execute the office, and if they fail to do so, to bind them over to the next General Sessions; as they have refused to obey his warrant summoning them to appear at the then next General Sessions to take the oaths.

23. On information by Andrew Dupe of Evercreech that William Withers, late constable of the hundred of Glaston Twelve Hides, detains from James Dupe, his son, who is committed to the Common Gaol for felony, all his clothes, both linen and woollen; the Court orders Withers to restore the said cloths, and desires the nearest justice to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he fails to do so.

24. Order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of Temperance, a bastard child of Alice Fawlett, late of Wittham Frary, single woman, born at Mells in September last; Richard Clarke, late of Wittham Frary and now of Beakely, co. Wilts, yeoman, being the reputed father. Dated 3 November, 1673.

25. Discharge of the above order, as it now appears that Thomas Allchild, now a prisoner in the Common Gaol of Wilts, is the reputed father of the child.

26. Order by the Hon. Francis Poulett and Richard Crosse, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of Joseph, a base child of Helena Gregory of West Bradley, single woman; Aaron Denman of Baltonsborowe being the reputed father. Dated 7 July, 1673.

27. Order of Robert Hawley and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Mary Turner of Buckland St Mary, singlewoman; William Wyatt of the same, husbandman, being the reputed father. Dated 29 October, 1673.

28. Order by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., and Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., for the relief of the parish of Bedminster, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Elizabeth Polton, late of Bristol; John Christopher being the reputed father. Dated 7 January, 1673-4.

29. Confirmation of an order by Henry Wallrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Joseph Vile and Mary, his wife, from Ile Abbotts to Curry Rivell; and order accordingly.

30. Reference to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Ralph Stawell, Robert Hunt and William Bull, Esquires, justices, of a petition of the churchwardens and overseers of Higham shewing that several considerable sums of money given for charitable uses in their parish are in great danger of being lost for want of security given for the same, and of careful trustees to obtain security from those in whose hands the sums remain. The justices are desired to settle the trusts in accordance with the intentions of the donors, and to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who fail to obey their orders.

31. Discharge of Hugh Jeanes from his apprenticeship with James Norcott of Wrington, in accordance with an order by Francis Vaughan and John Prowse, Esquires, justices; as Jeanes is a very infirm person and suffers from a running sore called the King's Evil, which was well known to his uncle, John Harris of Yatton, who directed Jeanes not to discover the same until after the indentures of apprenticeship were sealed.

32. On a dispute between the parish of Langford Budville and Mr. George Upton of Fitzhead touching the latter's refusal to take Charles Younge, a poor child of Langford, as his apprentice in respect of a farm which he or his tenants enjoy in Langford; the Court orders that Younge be placed apprentice with Richard Stephens of Langford Budville, the present tenant of the farm.

33. Copy of a list delivered to the Deputy Clerk of the Peace by Mr. Robert Cannington at this Sessions on 13 January, 1673-4, containing the names of persons in the liberty of the Bishop of Bath and Wells who failed to appear in the Grand Jury, the hundred juries of Winterstoake, Bempstone and Wells Forum, and the jury for the city of Wells.

Ordered that the persons named be spared from all issues, fines and amercements for their non-appearances.

34. Order that the churchwardens and overseers of Chardland do pay to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, 16s. disbursed by him on James Gibbes of Chardland, who was committed to the house for misdemeanours by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justice, and fell sick and died there. If they fail to obey this order, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

35. Confirmation of an order by Sir Halswell Tynt, Bart., and Robert Hawley, Esq., justices, for the removal of Joan Bater, widow of John Bater, from Wembdon to Cannington, and order accordingly; as it appears that in 1663 John Bater was removed from Wembdon to Cannington by an order of

William Bull and John Tynt, Esquires, then justices, but returned to Wembdon, where he was continually disturbed until Henry Rogers, Esq., then justice, promised that his residence there should not be accounted a settlement, and that Cannington would receive him back if he became likely to be chargeable.

36. Order, in confirmation of an order by Robert Hawley and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Hugh Chesterton, Dinah his wife, and their children, from Durston to Ruiston, and for their settlement at the latter place; as it appears that Dinah was married to Hugh in the parish church of Linge, Hugh being then settled as an inhabitant of Ruiston, and the parishioners of Ruiston have made no appeal from the above order at this Sessions. And forasmuch as it also appears that William Durston of Durston has been instrumental in concealing and keeping Dinah in his own house, and living very incontinently and uncivilly with her, so that the parishioners of Durston have been put to great expense in prosecuting them for such uncivil living, the Court by assent of all parties refers the dispute between the parishioners and Durston to the final decision of Robert Hawley and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, whose award is to be conclusive. If either party fails to obey the award, the said justices are to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 28 April, 26 Charles II. [1674.]

1. Reference to Ralph Stawell, Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, of the refusal of the occupiers of the lands called Goose Braydon to pay rates for the poor of Curry Rivell as formerly.

2. Confirmation on appeal of an order by John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of James Thomas and his wife from Marksbury to Wrington; and order accordingly,

3. On complaint by William Cooper of Glaston, gentleman, that the amercement of 5*l.* laid on the town at the Assizes for non-repair of highways has been levied entirely from him ; the Court recommends the matter to Francis Poulett and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, (to whom the complaint properly belongs), and desires them to cause an equal rate to be levied on all persons concerned, for repayment to Cooper of the said 5*l.* and 20*s.* for his expenses in the matter

4. Reference to Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by Albion Seaward of Crewkerne that Faith Seaward and Isaac Squire have seized the house and goods of his brother Richard Seaward, lately deceased, so that Richard, his brother's son, an infant, to whom the property was left by will, is likely to become chargeable to the parish. The said justices are desired to bind over any offenders to the next Sessions.

5. Voidance on appeal of an order by Sir Hugh Smyth, Knt. and Bart., Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., and Richard Morgan, Esq., justices, for the removal of Thomas Perryn from Bedmister to Clutton ; and order that Perryn be sent back to Bedmister and provided for there.

6. On a petition on behalf of the parishioners and inhabitants of Brimpton shewing that they have long been charged with payment of 22*s.* 4*d.* towards the hospitals of the county, whereas the adjoining parish of Lufton, (which is of almost the same value as theirs and is part of the same tithing of Brimpton), has been wholly exempted from payment and refuses to contribute with them ; the Court orders that henceforth the parishioners and inhabitants of Lufton contribute to that payment according to the value of their estates.

7. Order to the treasurer for the maimed soldiers to pay 20*s.* to Thomas Smyth of Chard, a poor man maimed in the king's service.

8. Confirmation of an order by John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Michael Burgis with his wife and 3 children from Priddy to St Cuthbert's, Wells, and order accordingly ; as the said order has now been produced and no cause to the contrary shewn by the inhabitants of St Cuthbert's. [See p. 150.]

9. Reference to Sir William Wyndham, Knt., Sir Thomas Mallett, Knt., John Turberville and William Lacy, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by the parish of Dulverton that Thomas Hill has lately come to settle there and is likely to become chargeable.

10. Order that henceforth no person shall have more than 10s. granted to him out of the County stock by any private order at one time.

11. Voidance on appeal of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Woldron, Esq., justices, for the removal of James Midland from Chardland to Thornecombe, co. Devon ; and order that Midland be settled at Chardland unless good cause to the contrary be shewn at the next General Sessions.

12. Declaration that John Hore of Ditchyate ought to be discharged from his office of overseer of Ditchyate, if his complaint that he is only a servant there and no householder be true. The Court desires the justices who appointed him to nominate a substantial householder in his place.

13. Order for payment by the treasurer of the Western Division of 3*l*. 18*s*. 6*d*. to William Allford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, for expenses incurred by him in repairing the house.

14. The like to the treasurer of the Eastern Division.

15. Confirmation on appeal of an order by John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of

Thomas Wiltshire and his wife from Hinton to Camerton ; and order accordingly.

16. Voidance on appeal of an order by Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Robert Holland with his wife and children from Merryott to Crewkerne, as it is proved that Holland rents 10*l.* per annum of lands in Merryott ; and order that Holland be settled at Merryott.

17. Reference to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr, Esq., justices, of a complaint by Catherine, wife of Edward Merryfeild, late of Merryott, that her husband, by the advice and persuasion of his mother, Mary Merryfeild, has departed and left her with one small child in a very poor condition, the said Mary having got into her possession all the goods which she brought with her at her marriage, and refusing at present to contribute to her maintenance. The justices are to report at the next General Sessions.

18. Order that Thomas Cribb, late of Glaston, who was committed to the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett by Sir Hugh Smyth, Bart., justice, and still remains there to the great trouble and expense of the master, be set at liberty unless Glaston within a fortnight agree to satisfy the master for his further continuance there.

19. Order that John Herryford do pay 13*s.* 4*d.* to Edward Buoy for wages and horse-hire. Otherwise the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

20. Order that Thomas Bull, *alias* Mebbrick, apprentice, be apprehended by the constable or tythingman of Hill Bishopps and taken to the House of Correction of Taunton ; as his master, William Barbar of Hill Bishopps, clothier, has made oath that he is afraid his said apprentice will do him some bodily hurt or burn his house.

21. Information of John Lewis, the elder, of Axbridge, glover, taken on 25 April, 1674, before John Prowse, Esq., justice, in support of an allegation that the three houses wherein Richard Nix, Robert Tovey and John Welch dwell are in the parish of Axbridge, and not in Compton Buishopp.

22. The like information by Richard Edgill and Henry Edgill.

23. On motion of counsel on behalf of the parish of Compton Buishopp praying that the above two informations may be taken as authentic and enrolled in court, and that the houses in question may be adjudged to be in the parish of Axbridge unless sufficient cause to the contrary be shewn at the next General Sessions; the Court orders accordingly.

24. Appointment of Henry Bonner of Combe St Nicholas, Esq., to be treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division in place of Thomas Lydgingham, gentleman. The outgoing treasurer's accounts are to be taken by Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr, Esq., justices.

25. Appointment in like terms of Thomas Moore of Spargrove, Esq., as treasurer for the Eastern Division in place of James Carrent, gentleman.

26. Suppression of a disorderly alehouse kept by Richard Lange of Barweeke.

27. Order by Sir Francis Wyndham, Bart., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Sarah Hore of Castle Cary, single woman, Edward Hix of Castle Cary, husbandman, being the reputed father. Dated at Compton Pauncfoot, 2 February, 1673-4.

28. Order by the same touching the maintenance of a base son of Mary Olliver, widow, Thomas Stacey of Trent, soap boiler, being the reputed father. Dated at Trent, 13 April, 1674.

29. Account of Thomas Ledgingham, gentleman, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, for 1673.

Received, 99*l*.

Disbursed, 95*l*. os. 8*d*.

30. Account of Thomas Creech, deputy treasurer [for the maimed soldiers] to Richard Churchey of Wincanton, for 1673.

Received, 786*l*. 13*s*. 3*d*.

Disbursed, 652*l*. 8*s*. 3*d*.

31. Order that John Hereford of Wells do pay 13*s*. 6*d*. to Edward Bowell of Wells for wages and horse-hire. Otherwise the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

32. Appointment of John Acourt of Roddon, Esq., as treasurer for the maimed soldiers in place of Richard Churchy, Esq. The outgoing treasurer's accounts are to be taken as above. [No. 24.]

33. Order for payment by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers of 20*s*. each to Richard Briant of Kingsdon and Hugh Waldron of Somerton, and 10*s*. each to James Wooller of Shepton Mountague and Philip Joanes of Mells, they being poor, aged and impotent persons who faithfully served the late King in his wars.

34. Order by the Court touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Mary Webber, Thomas Parrett of Skillgate being the reputed father.

35. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p*. 134].

36. Divers sums having been estreated and returned into the Court of Exchequer against the inhabitants of the county for non-repair of Lambridge in the parish of Swanswicke, Bath

Easton Bridge, Bathford Bridge, Froome Bridge, Woolward Bridge, Pensford Bridge, Claxton Bridge and Ex Bridge, and Henry Exon, collector of the greenwax having disbursed on behalf of the county 5*l.* 4*s.* for fees and expenses concerning the premises ; the Court orders that the said Henry do demand from the inhabitants of each of the several parishes in which the said bridges lie 13*s.* towards satisfaction of the said sum, and be authorised to levy the same by distraint and sale of goods if the parishes will not collect and pay the same.

BRIDGEWATER SESSIONS. 14 July, 26 Charles II. [1674.]

1. Confirmation of an order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Hannah England of Taunton St James, single woman, saving to John Garnesey of the same, the reputed father, his appeal at the next General Sessions at Wells, if in the meantime he be served with the said order and give notice of appeal ; he having been in the King's service ever since the order was made, and never having been served therewith.

2. Order for discharge of a process issued against James Grimsbey to remove the nuisance in straitening the highway in Northweeke street for which he was prosecuted ; as it appeared at last Wells Sessions that he had removed the same.

3. Confirmation of an order by William Bull and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, for the seizure of goods and rents in the parish of Butleigh belonging to Christopher Jeanes, late of Meare, for the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Joan Colmer of Butleigh whereof he is the reputed father.

4. Order that Thomas Pratt of North Petherton do execute the office of overseer in the said parish for the remainder of the year, he having hitherto refused to do so. In case of his refusal, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

5. On complaint by the overseers of West Hatch that Joseph Collens and Mary, his wife, have left the parish and gone beyond seas, (as is reported), leaving a young child chargeable to the parish ; the Court orders that an estate of the value of 7*l.* per annum which Joseph and Mary had in the said parish be charged with rates for the maintenance of the child.

6. On reading an order made at Bridgewater, 16 Charles II, for the setting up of a bridge over the mill stream at Nortlett Bridge below Glaston, and upon a petition now made by the inhabitants of Meare shewing that a 'steaneing' or fordable way through the mill stream will be more convenient than a bridge, and praying that this may be done at their costs ; the Court grants the said petition.

7. Order for payment by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers of 10*s.* apiece to Nicholas Cox, — Bartlett, Thomas Warr, Penelope Rugg, Edward Aplin and Rice George.

8. On a dispute between the parishioners of Withycombe and John Vallacott, the latter refusing to receive John Jenings, a poor child of the parish, as his apprentice, on the ground that he already has an apprentice, to wit, William Fox, whose time is not expired, and the parishioners alleging that Fox is discharged from his apprenticeship, being over 24 years old ; the Court desires Sir William Wyndham, Knt., and Sir John Mallett, justices, to examine certain aged witnesses of the parish for proving the age of Fox, in order that their examinations may be made use of at the next General Sessions. The losing party is to pay the costs of the winning party.

9. Reference to Edward Phelipps, Esq., and Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., justices, of a dispute between the parishes of Martock and Ottcombe touching the maintenance of a bastard child of Edith Audley, *alias* Pratt.

10. Confirmation on appeal of an order by William Clarke and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, for the removal of

John Parsons from Thurloxtton to North Petherton, he having lived at Thurloxtton for several years by virtue of a certificate of discharge by the churchwardens and overseers of North Petherton ; and order accordingly.

11. Confirmation on appeal of an order by Sir William Wyndham and Sir John Mallett, Knights, justices, for the removal of Martin Norman from Mynehead to Stogursey ; as he was received at Mynehead as an apprentice to Thomas Hues, glover, who is now proved to be a poor man and not a householder in Mynehead, and therefore not capable by law of taking an apprentice : and discharge of Norman from his said apprenticeship.

12. Voidance on appeal of an order by Francis Vaughan and John Prowse, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Elizabeth Porch from Wedmore to Meare ; and order that she be sent back to Wedmore and received there as an inhabitant.

13. Award that the three houses mentioned above [*p.* 158] are in the parish of Axbridge, and not in Compton Bishopp.

14. Confirmation on appeal of an order by Sir William Wyndham and Sir John Mallett, Knights, justices, touching the maintenance at St Decumans of a bastard child of Anne Porter, single woman, the reputed father being Humphrey Hooper. The two nearest justices are desired to take order for the punishment of Anne.

15. Respite until the next General Sessions of an appeal by the parishioners of Wittham Frary against an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, touching the settlement of Thomas Allchild, Alice, his wife, and Temperance, their daughter ; there being a dispute in the matter between the parishes of Wittham Frary and Melles. Due notice is to be given to the parishioners of Melles.

16. Discharge of Alice Dyer of East Quantoxhead, widow, of Hugh Brole, an apprentice placed with her for an estate of hers in the said parish, and order that the apprentice be placed with Giles Sweeteing, who is now in possession of the estate.

17. On complaint by the parish of West Buckland that a bastard child of Anne Clatham, who died before she could reveal the true father, has been brought to West Buckland from Old Clive, where it was born, and is chargeable ; the Court orders that the child be sent back to Old Clive and remain there unless cause to the contrary be shewn at the next General Sessions.

18. Confirmation, by request, of an order by Francis Paulett and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, for placing John Milborne with his family in the house in the parish of East Pennard lately in the possession of the widow Pittman, deceased.

19. Order, by consent of both parties, that the occupiers of the lands called Goosbradon and the overseers of Curry Rivell shall meet at next General Sessions, and there have a final end put to their dispute about the liability of the said occupiers to pay poor rates for Curry Rivell, without any further trouble by bill of indictment or any law suit whatsoever.

20. Order by Robert Hunt and William Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Joan Colemer of Butleigh, single woman ; the reputed father being Christopher Jeanes of Meare, husbandman. Dated 11 July, 1674.

21. Order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Hannah England of Taunton St James, single woman ; the reputed father being John Garnesey, now or lately of the same parish.

22. Order by Sir William Wyndham and Sir John Mallett, justices, touching the maintenance of Humphrey Porter, a base

child of Anne Porter, single woman, of St Decumans ; the reputed father being Humphrey Hooper of Watchett in the said parish, mariner. Dated 14 July, 1674.

23. Order by Robert Hawley and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of the base daughter of Joan Pester of Hill Bishop, single woman ; the reputed father being Henry Hookins of the same parish, miller. Dated 15 July, 1674.

24. Order that Giles Harris of Northpetherton do pay 50s. to William Alford, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, on account of the sickness and funeral expenses of John Perry, his apprentice, who was committed to the said house by Sir Richard Rainsford, Knt., Judge of Assize for the Western Circuit, and fell sick and died there.

25. Confirmation of an order by Robert Hawley and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Susanna Bellamy with her children from Spaxton to Netherstowey, and order accordingly ; unless the inhabitants of Netherstowey can prove at the next General Sessions that she is married to a person living in some other parish. If they fail to do so, they shall pay to the overseers of Spaxton the costs incurred by them meanwhile.

26. Order that Mr. Thomas Creech do execute the office of treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division until further order, in place of [Thomas] Moore, Esq., who was elected thereto at Ivilchester Sessions last ; as Mr. Thomas Brooke, who was deputy to the former treasurer, by reason of his weakness did not take forth the said order of nomination, whereby the service is much neglected.

27. Repetition in greater detail of the award in No. 13 above.

BATH SESSIONS. 6 October, 26 Charles II. [1674.]

1. On an appeal by the parish of Crocombe against an order by Sir Haswell Tynte, Knt., and William Clarke, Esq., justices, for the removal of Joan Hill from Spaxton to Crocombe, and upon information on oath by John Burborough that Joan lived at Spaxton for 2 months and afterwards at Kingston for 3 months, which was her last place of settlement; the Court orders that she be sent to Kingston and provided for there, unless cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions.

2. On an appeal against the order of last Bridgewater Sessions touching a bastard child of Anne Clatham [*p.* 163], the Court orders that the child be sent to Kelve and provided for there, unless good cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions; as it now appears that Anne was last settled there for 4 years before her death.

3. Voidance on appeal of an order for settling Jane Pocock at Drayton; and order that she be settled at Redcraft, where she appears to have lived formerly. Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Ralph Stawell and Thomas Warr, Esquires, are desired to settle the dispute between the parishioners of Fifehead and Curry Rivell if possible, or else to report thereon to the next Sessions.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Leigh and Whatley which was referred to the Court at the last Assizes, that John Pryor be settled at Leigh.

5. The Court desires Peter Roynon, John Strechey, Joseph Langton and John Harrington, Esquires, justices, to view Keynsham Bridge, which is said to be very much decayed, and report at the next General Sessions.

6. Confirmation of an order by Sir Hugh Smith, Knt., and Edward Gorges, Esq., justices, for the removal of Thomas Mudge from Tickenham to Clevedon; and order accordingly.

7. Confirmation of an order made at last Ivilchister Sessions for the settlement of James Midland with his wife and children at Chardland; and voidance of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Edward Phelipps, Esq., justices, settling the said James at Thornecombe, co. Devon.

8. The Court desires Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., John Buckland, Peter Roynon and John Strachey, Esquires, to ascertain whether James Grimsbey of Chew Magna has removed the nuisance of straitening the highway in the said parish of which he was formerly convicted on presentment, or not, and to report at the next General Sessions; as it is alleged by John Loscombe that the nuisance has not been removed, although oath has been made to the contrary. If it appears that the nuisance is not removed, process of Court is to issue against Grimsbey.

9. Order that the occupiers or proprietors of the lands called Goosebradon shall henceforth contribute towards the relief of the poor of the parish of Curry Rivell, as the other inhabitants of the parish do.

10. Appointment of John Musgrave of Wellington as constable of the hundred of Kingsbury West in place of John Winter, who has served for more than a year; and order that he take the oath of constable before a justice within a week after notice hereof, under penalty of 10*l*. In case of his refusal, any justice to whom complaint is made is to bind him over to next General Sessions.

11. Order that George Bonfeild of Brislington be discharged from being a pensioner, and that John Boucher of Keynsham be admitted in his place to a pension of 40*s*. a year; as the Court is informed that Bonfeild can maintain himself and that Boucher is a very poor man who faithfully served the King in the late wars.

12. Order for the settlement of Susanna Millard with her bastard child in the parish of Stoway, where she formerly lived for 2 years and was begotten with child ; in pursuance of an agreement whereby the inhabitants of Stoway declared that her subsequent residence at Compton Martin should not make the latter parish liable to keep her.

13. Order to the constable and tythingman of Bathyolston and others concerned to apprehend and bring before a justice Joan Davy, late of their parish, who was formerly committed to prison for felony and released on bail, and who has since fled.

14. Order that John Vallacott do forthwith receive John Jenings as his apprentice, and pay to the churchwardens and overseers of Withycombe the costs incurred by them by reason of his former refusal to do so ; as it appears by depositions taken in pursuance of an order made at Bridgewater Sessions last that William Fox, his former apprentice, is about 24 years old. [*See p. 161.*]

15. Confirmation of a former order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of Hannah England's bastard son ; as John Garnesey, the reputed father, has been served with the order and made no appeal against it. [*See pp. 160, 163.*]

16. Order by Robert Hawley and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of William, a base son of Joan West of Spaxton ; the reputed father being Moses Parsons, junior, of Ashcott. Dated 14 August, 1674.

17. On an appeal against an order by Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., Harry Bridges and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Edward Hooper from Chew Magna to Staunton Drew ; the Court refers the matter to the next General Sessions, Hooper meanwhile staying where he is.

18. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelips, Knt., Ralph Stawell and Thomas Warr, Esquires, justices, to enquire into a dispute between the parishes of Drayton and Fivehead touching the settlement of Aquila Longe and Joan Pocock, widows, who live in a cottage erected on a tenement belonging to Joseph Longe of Fivehead, and to report to the next General Sessions. In the meantime the widow Pocock is to remain where she is without prejudice to either party.

19. In pursuance of an order made at the Assizes and General Gaol Delivery held at Taunton Castle on 23 March last, desiring the justices in Quarter Sessions to make provision out of the county stock for the poor of the hospital in Curry Rivell parish near Langport, and to remove therefrom such persons as are able to get a livelihood; the Court desires Sir Edward Phelipp, Knt., Ralph Stawell, Thomas Warr, Robert Hunt and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to inspect the hospital and remove the above persons. And inasmuch as the revenues of the hospital are so small, the Court orders that henceforth there shall be only ten poor persons there, and they either aged, decrepit and unable to work, or else weak and infirm in their understanding, and that the overseers of Curry Rivell shall in future be the governors of the hospital, there being no need of a governor to live in the hospital and consume the small revenue and stock thereof, and that in future no person shall be legally placed in the hospital except after presentation by the trustees and feoffees and approval by the Court. The treasurers of the hospitals are to pay 5*l.* to the said overseers for weekly distribution among the inmates of the hospital.

WELLS SESSIONS. 12 January, 26 Charles II. [1675.]

1. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Halse and Liddeard St Lawrence touching the settlement of Joan Stephens, a poor child, that the said Joan be settled as an apprentice on Frances Gorton of Liddeard St Lawrence, widow, until she be 21 years old or married.

2. Order for payment by the treasurer for the maimed soldiers of 20s. to Penelope Rugge, *alias* Mallack, widow, whose husband was killed in the late King's service.

3. Order that John Acrigge, junior, be at liberty to take his bastard son by Ann Kinge of Gotehurst into his custody and care ; he having given security for the maintenance of the child and the discharge of the parish therefrom, as John Gaige and William Frowman, the present churchwarden and overseer of Goatehurst, have testified.

4. Discharge of Richard Batten from his apprenticeship with John Torry of West Munckton, blacksmith, who was lately accused and indicted of various felonies and has fled, having often heretofore enticed his said apprentice to several unlawful actions, which he refused to do.

5. Discharge of Mr. Thomas Cooke from executing the office of surveyor of the highways in the parish of Shepton Mallett, to which office he was unlawfully elected by a few of the parishioners after four other persons had been elected in Christmas week last by the constables, tythingman, churchwardens and other parishioners in pursuance of an Act of 22 Charles II.

6. Order for the settlement of Henry Russle and his wife in the parish of Stowford, unless cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions ; as it appears that he has lately intruded himself into the parish of East Coker, where he is likely to become chargeable.

7. Confirmation of an order by Joseph Langton and John Harrington, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Henry Lawrence from Compton Dandoe to Bedmister, and order accordingly ; Bedmister having made no appeal.

8. Confirmation on appeal of an order by William Lacy and John Turbervill, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Joan Lovelesse from Clattworthy to Upton, and order accordingly.

9. Confirmation of an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampf'eild, Esq., justices, for the removal of Richard Gibbs with his family from Marston Biggott to Meare, and order accordingly ; Meare having made no appeal.

10. Modification on appeal of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Bart., and Sir John Malett, Knt., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Ann Clattham, *alias* Leaky, born in Old Cleeve parish, whereof William Shurt of Kelve is the reputed father.

11. Discharge of James Osborne from his apprenticeship with Thomas Cayford of Dowltinge, who has often beaten him and withheld food and clothing from him.

12. Confirmation of an order by John Turbervill and Thomas Warr, Esquires, justices, to the churchwardens and overseers of Chipstable, to seize sufficient goods of William Tudball for the maintenance of his bastard son by Ann Joyce, single woman ; and order accordingly.

13. Confirmation on appeal of an order by Edward Bampf'eild, John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Richard Millard from Beckington to Standerweeke ; and order accordingly.

14. Order for the settlement of Aquila Longe and Jane Pocock in the parish of Fifehead ; as it appears by a certificate of the justices to whom the matter was referred at last Bath Sessions [*p.* 168] that Joseph Longe's tenement is in that parish.

15. Order that Anthony Scripture of East Wells, who faithfully served the late King and received several wounds in the late wars, be admitted to a pension of 40s. a year, and that the treasurer of the maimed soldiers pay him 10s. on demand, as he is in great want and very impotent.

16. Order for the continuance and settlement of Edward Hooper at Chewe Magna. [*See p.* 167.]

17. Order, — on an appeal against an order by Sir Hugh Smith and Sir Thomas Gore, Knts., justices, for the removal of Thomas Jeanes from Clapton to Kenn, — for the return of Jeanes to Clapton, where he was formerly for more than a year an apprentice to Thomas Rogers of that parish, husbandman, and for his settlement there.

18. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 10*l.* to Mr. Nathaniel Boughton, minister of Ivelchester, for distribution amongst the necessitous prisoners in gaol there.

19. Reference to the two nearest justices of an information that Abraham Barnes, late of Charleton Adam, who was lately sent by a justice to the House of Correction at Shepton Mallett for being an idle and disorderly person, is in great need of some maintenance, seeing that he is in a distracted condition and unable to maintain himself by his own labour. The justices are to report to the next General Sessions what allowance (if any) is necessary.

20. Order that the churchwardens of Bridgewater in the hundred of Northpetherton do forthwith pay to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers a third of the quarterly sum due from the said hundred according to a former order, they being returned as three quarterly payments in arrear. If they refuse, the treasurer is empowered to levy the arrears by distress and sale of the churchwardens' goods.

21. The Court, taking into consideration the great number of poor people that under pretence of authority have been received from several parishes into the hospital of Curry Rivell, and there now remain in great indigency and poverty, to the great charge and burden of the parish of Curry Rivell, orders that from henceforth no persons shall be sent to or received in the said hospital from any other parish until by death or otherwise the poor there remaining be reduced to the number of three persons, and that the poor to be placed there in future shall at

no one time exceed four persons in number, and that when any person shall be sent thither from any other parish to be settled there, the said parish shall give security to the churchwardens and overseers of Curry Rivell to discharge them of such person, and that the treasurer of the hospitals of each division shall henceforth and until further order pay 20*l.* yearly by quarterly payments to the said churchwardens and overseers towards the relief and maintenance of the poor in the said hospital.

22. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Stowey and Compton Martin, for the settlement of Susanna Millard at the latter place.

23. Order by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., and Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Frances Gay, single woman, born at Barrow; the reputed father being John Leamon of Bleagdon, innholder. Dated at Fayland, 18 December, 1672.

24. Report by John Buckland and Peter Roynon, justices, in pursuance of an order made at last Bath Sessions [*p.* 166], (1) that the nuisance of straitening the highway caused by James Grimsby is now removed, (2) that John Loscombe (between whom and Grimsby there is a very great animosity) has also caused Grimsby to be presented at the Sessions by the hundred jury for an encroachment on the lord's waste, mistaking such encroachment for a public nuisance, whereby he has caused much unnecessary trouble and expense to both parties, as well as to the Court of Sessions, and (3) that another nuisance of digging up and carrying away stones from a causey in the king's highway, in a place called Broad Close Lane in Chewes Magna, of which Grimsby has also been presented, has been removed and amended, if any such was committed. Dated 7 January, 1674-5.

By the Court. All process and further proceedings on any judgment or verdict relating to the above nuisances to cease.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 13 April, 27 Charles II. [1675.]

1. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p.* 159].

2. Appointment of Thomas Gatchell of Northpetherton, gentleman, as treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, in place of Henry Bonner, Esq. The outgoing treasurer's accounts are to be taken by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Sir Thomas Gore, Knt., Thomas Warr and Edward Gorges, Esquires, justices.

3. Appointment in like terms of William Whittchurch, the elder, of Froome Zellwood, gentleman, as treasurer for the Eastern Division.

4. Appointment in like terms of John Carewe of Crocombe, Esq., as treasurer for the maimed soldiers, in place of John Court of Roddon, Esq.

5. Vacation of a record certified into Court at the last General Sessions by Richard Crosse, Esq., justice, touching the conviction of Anthony Mortimer and John Greene for being at an unlawful conventicle, and discharge of the said parties ; as the said record is now found to be insufficient in law. The Court desires Mr. Crosse to restore to Mortimer and Greene the sums levied on their goods (5*l.* 5*s.* and 8*l.* 5*s.* respectively) by virtue of the said record.

6. Order that the treasurers of the hospitals do each pay 3*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* to Mr. Edward Davies for disbursements on the repair of the County Gaol.

7. Confirmation of a warrant by Robert Hawley and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Mary Garman from Thorne Faulcon to Curry Mallett, and order accordingly. Or if the churchwardens and overseers of Curry Mallett give a

discharge or other security to the parish of Thorne Faulcon touching Mary's residence there, it shall be such as shall be allowed by Thomas Warr and Edward Court, Esquires, the justices nearest to the said parishes.

8. Order for payment by the treasurer of the maimed soldiers of a gratuity of 10s. to the following :—Richard Thorne of South Cadbury, John Bull of North Cadbury, William Meade of Yeovill, John White of the same, — Gausell of Cranmore, — Baker of the same, John Morrice of South Cadbury, Daniel Knight of —, Richard Walter of South Brewham, William Smith of Chard, James Wooller of Sutton Mountague, John Shephard of Bathampton and John Hill of Cranmore.

9. Order to the treasurer for the maimed soldiers to pay 50*l.* of the money remaining in his hand on the balance of his account to Mr. William Alford, governor of the House of Correction in Taunton, to be by him employed in “managing employment and trade for the setting to work of the prisoners in his custody.” The said sum is not to be paid to Mr. Alford until John Turbevill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, shall have given a certificate that they have received security from him for repayment thereof at the end of Easter Sessions next.

10. Order that Thomas Hellier of East Chinnock, clerk, be discharged of Ann Pike, an apprentice placed on him by the churchwardens and overseers of the parish, as he is only vicar there and has a very small glebe.

11. Licence, — in pursuance of a petition by the minister, churchwardens and overseers of West Lidford, and a grant of licence by Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., lord of the said manor, — for Thomas Wake to build a cottage on the waste of the manor and hold it for life, and for the churchwardens and overseers of the parish to dispose thereof afterwards, according to statute.

12. Order that the overseers of Corton Dinham do pay to William Bartlett, late overseer of the same, such moneys as Lord Fitzhardinge and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, shall direct, in reimbursement of his expenses in prosecuting Henry Wakeford of the same parish for erecting a cottage there contrary to statute. In case of disobedience, the nearest justice is desired to bind the overseers over to the next General Sessions.

13. Order, — on a dispute between the parishioners of Clowford and John Saunders of Brewton touching the maintenance of Mary Abbott, who was heretofore wounded by Saunders, (as appears by a covenant under his hand and seal), and is now become chargeable to Clowford, — that Saunders shall pay the parishioners what is due to Mary under the covenant, (or else provide for her himself, as he ought to do by his agreement), and also their expenses in attending at this Sessions. Otherwise the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

14. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Combe St Nicholas to compose (if they can) a dispute between the parishioners of that parish and John Kempe of the same, fuller, touching the maintenance of a base daughter of Elizabeth Poole of the same, he being the reputed father ; or else to report to the next General Sessions.

15. Reference to the next General Sessions of a dispute between the parishes of Marston Biggott and Meare touching the settlement of Richard Gibbs, the parishioners of Meare having alleged that they were not served with notice of the order for his removal to their parish made by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, and for that reason made no appeal at last Wells Sessions. If the parishioners of Marston Biggott can prove at next Sessions that Meare was legally served with the said order, the widow of the said Gibbs shall be settled with her children at Meare and the parishioners of Marston Biggott shall be paid their taxed costs in attending at next Sessions.

16. Order by John Turbervill and William Lacy, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Joan Wrentmore of Bishoppes Liddeard, single woman ; the reputed father being Robert Tucker of the same. Dated 26 February, 1674-5.

17. Account of Thomas Creech touching the hospitals of the Eastern Division for 1674.

Receipts 122*l.* 7*s.* 7½*d.*

Payments 105*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

18. Account of Henry Bonner, Esq., treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, for 1674.

Receipts 102*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*

Payments 99*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*

19. Account of Mr. William Hinton, deputy treasurer for the maimed soldiers, for 1674.

Receipts 847*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*

Payments 635*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

20. On information by the justices who were desired to take the account of the late treasurer for the maimed soldiers that the quarterly payments from the various hundreds may be reduced by a third, and yet leave a sufficient stock for payment of the soldiers already admitted as pensioners ; the Court orders that the said payments be so reduced, and that the sheriff give notice hereof to the constables of the hundreds.

21. The Court, in order to remove certain doubts, declares its opinion that all persons who are chargeable towards relief of the poor are also chargeable towards relief of the maimed soldiers.

BRIDGEWATER SESSION. 13 July, 27 Charles II. [1675.]

1. Order that this Quarter Sessions be adjourned to the Almshouse in Wells on Tuesday, 3 August next, at 9 o'clock, in order that those persons who by reason of infirmity are unable to travel to Bridgewater to take the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and to subscribe the declaration against the Doctrine of Transubstantiation according to a late Act of Parliament, may do so at Wells.

There adjourned until the next day to the Chancellor's office in Wells.

2. Order that John Owen of Milverton, yeoman, bailiff of the hundred of Milverton, be absolutely discharged from his said office as unfit to hold it, as he is indicted by several bills found by the Grand Jury of having extorted from the inhabitants of the hundred several sums of money under colour of his office. Any two justices in or near the said hundred are desired to use their utmost endeavours to secure the appointment of an honest bailiff in Owen's place, and to bind Owen over to the next General Sessions if in future he presume to officiate in the said office.

3. Order, — on a complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of Liddeard St Laurence, — that Sidwell Keene do undertake the office of overseer of the said parish, to which she has legally been elected, or else find a fit substitute. Otherwise, the nearest justice is desired to bind her over to the next General Sessions.

4. Order to the treasurer for the maimed soldiers to pay 10s. each to John Bouger, Rumin' Trowe, John Burt, John Hamlin, William Baller, John Bishopp, Thomas Travers, Edward Aplin and Thomas Wills, indigent and maimed soldiers.

5. Order, — on a complaint by Mr. Thomas Paige of Taunton, barber-surgeon — that the churchwardens and

overseers of Westmunckton do pay the said Paige 40s. for his pains and labour in curing Thomas Rogers, a poor man who was beaten and wounded in the highway in the said parish, and was likely to die of those wounds. In case of disobedience, the nearest justice is desired to bind over the said churchwardens and overseers to the next General Sessions.

6. The Court desires the two justices nearest to Yeovill to cause a rate and tax to be made on the inhabitants of the said parish forreimbursement to Thomas Strode of the same, surveyor of the highways in the parish, of 22s. 6d. paid by him for fees due to the officers of the Court for the discharge of the inhabitants of Yeovill from a presentment formerly exhibited against them for a nuisance, and of his reasonable costs and charges in attending at Court concerning the said discharge ; and to bind over until the next General Sessions any persons refusing to pay.

7. On complaint by the agents of John, Lord Pawlett, that divers idle persons in the hundreds of Crewkerne, Houndsborowe, Coker, Southpetherton and Kingsbury East keep dogs, nets and engines to destroy gentlemen's game, having no estates to justify their doing so ; the Court orders that Lord Pawlett, or any servant or agent appointed by him, do forthwith seize and destroy all such dogs, nets and engines, and that all constables, tythingmen and other king's officers do aid and assist him and them therein.

8. Confirmation of an indenture by the churchwardens and overseers of Exton whereby John Gaige, *alias* Vicary, was bound apprentice with Thomas Saunders of the same parish ; as it appears that Saunders has an estate in the parish and is fit to have an apprentice.

9. Discharge on appeal of an order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Hugh Beard with his wife and family from Taunton Magdalen to Michaelcreech ; and order for the settlement of the wife and

children of the said Beard (Beard himself being now dead) at Taunton Magdalen : as no mention of the said wife and children was made in the discharge which Michaelcreech gave to Taunton Magdalen touching the said Beard.

10. Order, — on a dispute between the parishioners of Crocombe and William Chapple of Crocombe, — that James Coles be placed on Chapple as his apprentice according to an indenture under the seals of the churchwardens and overseers of Crocombe, and that the parishioners of Crocombe do pay Chapple 20s. towards the provision of clothes for his apprentice ; Chapple having refused to receive him without money.

11. Confirmation of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Henry Walrond, Esq., justices, touching a dispute between the inhabitants of Combe St Nicholas and John Kempe. [See p. 175.]

12. Order for the absolute settlement of Eleanor, widow of Richard Gibbs, with her children, at Marston. [See p. 175.]

13. Reference to Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and William Heliar, Esq., justices, of a complaint by William Chaunt of Odcombe that the overseers of Odcombe have wholly neglected to secure the observance of an order made at Ivelchester Sessions, 1674, touching the maintenance of the bastard child of his daughter, Mary Chaunt, and that the education and maintenance of the child is now wholly left to him, the mother and father being both since dead. The said justices are desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who refuse obedience to their award.

14. Order for the settlement of James Perry with his wife and family (or such of them as are now living at Corfe) at Milverton, as it is alleged that Milverton gave a discharge to receive them back again if at any time they should become chargeable at Corfe.

15. Disallowance of an order by William Clarke and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Robert Warren and Elizabeth Warren, his daughter, from Michael Creech to North Curry, so far as concerns the said Elizabeth ; and order that Elizabeth be settled at Michael Creech, where her mother was last settled during her lifetime.

16. Confirmation of an order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of James Jalopp from Cheddon Fitzpaine to Kingston, and order accordingly ; and reference to the same justices of a complaint by the overseers of Kingston that a sum of money was given to Philip Jalopp to take the said James as his apprentice when he lived in Kingstone, and that James is now discharged, having only lived with Philip for a short time. The justices are to order Philip to repay as much of the said sum as they think fit to such persons and for the use of such parish as they shall award, and are to bind him over to the next General Sessions in case of refusal.

17. Confirmation of an order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Joan Caswell from North Curry to Taunton Magdalen ; as the overseers of Taunton Magdalen made no appeal at the last General Sessions at Ivelchester, which was the Sessions next after the said order was made and executed.

18. On proof that Joseph Davy, a poor child of the parish of Brompton Ralph, was bound apprentice to Robert Henborowe of the same parish, his executors, administrators and assigns, until reaching the age of 24 years, and that Robert died intestate, committing the administration of his goods to John Stowell, husband of Agnes, his daughter, and assigning his apprentice (who is now more than 21 years old) to David Henborowe of Brompton Ralph and his wife, or one of them, by word of mouth, and that the latter threaten to keep the apprentice until he be 24 years old, or else lay him in Bridewell,

and not to deliver up his indentures ; the Court orders Davy to be discharged of his apprenticeship with David Henborowe, who has no right, title or interest in him, (the said parol assignment being void), and the indentures of apprenticeship to be given up.

19. Order,—on a dispute between the parishioners of Bishopp Liddeard and Thomas Crosse of the same,—that Crosse be discharged of Elizabeth Sandy, an apprentice placed with him by the churchwardens and overseers of the parish by consent of Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, and that the said Elizabeth be bound apprentice to some other fit person. And order that some other poor person of the parish be received as an apprentice by John Pole of the same parish.

20. Confirmation,—on a complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of Laurence Liddeard,—of an order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the settlement of William Lambert of Halse, labourer, with his wife and bastard child, at Halse, unless the parishioners of Halse shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

21. Confirmation of an order made by the same justices for the settlement of George Goodman at Netherstowey.

22. Aug. 10, 1675. Received a Commission from the Lord High Treasurer to seize the real estates, (*i.e.* two-thirds thereof) of the persons undermentioned, being convicted for recusancy. Commission returnable on the morrow of Martinmas next.

Convicted at Ilchester Sessions, 28 April, 26 Charles II.

Richard FitzJames of Redlinch, gentleman.

Mary, wife of John Freake of South Brewham, gentleman.

Elizabeth Freake of the same, spinster ; now Elizabeth Lewes.

Frances Freake of the same, spinster.
Elizabeth Vallis of the same, singlewoman.
Jane Ludwell of Redlinch, widow.

Convicted at Wells Assizes, 1 September, 26 Charles II.

John Standfesse, junior, of Glaston, yeoman.

William Melledge of the same, yeoman.

Anne, his wife.

John Sampson of the same.

Thomas Martin of Baltonsborough, gentleman.

Mary, his wife.

Margaret Martin of the same.

Henry Foxewell of the same, gentleman.

Mary, his wife.

William Barnard of the same, yeoman.

Abigail Pullen of the same.

Elizabeth Wagge of the same.

Jo. Younge of Driddy, yeoman.

Jo. Plumley of the same, yeoman.

Francis Plumley of the same, yeoman.

Jane, his wife.

James Plumley of the same, yeoman.

Francis Gullock of Dulcott, yeoman.

Anne Perrey of the same.

Thomas Allinge of the same, yeoman.

Alice Lavingdon of West Horrington, yeoman.

Richard Brooke of the same, yeoman.

Angel, his wife.

William Evans of St Andrews, Wells, gentleman.

—, his wife.

Emma Brocke of Shilton Cambello (*sic*), yeoman.

Richard Sellack of Liddeard St Laurence.

Ro. Dyer of the same.

Henry Whiple of the same, yeoman.

Matthew Rich of the same, yeoman.

Thomas Bray of North Petherton, yeoman.

Commissioners' names (37 names).

The Commission is returned to the Lord Treasurer to be amended.

23. Order by Robert Hawley and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Ruth Laurence of Taunton St James, singlewoman; the reputed father being Robert Butter of the same parish. Dated 12 July, 1675.

24. Order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Emma Clarke of Gregory Stooke, singlewoman; the reputed father being John Powell of the same parish, tailor. Dated 12 June, 1675.

25. Order by William Clarke and John Turbervill, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Joan Nurton of Norton Fitzwarren, singlewoman; the reputed father being Christopher Tarr of Chipstable, schoolmaster. Dated 12 July, 1675.

26. Order,—on a dispute between the parishioners of Trull and Thomas Vilven,—that the parishioners shall pay Thomas 20s. towards providing clothes for Francis Stroud, an apprentice placed on him in respect of an estate in the said parish which he rents from Edward Babb, and that thereupon Stroud shall remain with him as his apprentice.

27. A like order on a dispute between the said parishioners and Edward Thomas touching Justine Stroud, an apprentice placed on him in respect of an estate in the parish which he rents from Buttolph Thomas.

28. On a complaint by the inhabitants of Linge that at a Sessions of Sewers held for the Western Division of the county it was ordered that Bullsmore Wall be faced with stone to save the country from sudden floods, and on information that 200*l*.

will not be sufficient to do this ; the Court, having no cognisance to alter what is done by the Commissioners of Sewers, although several of the said Commissioners are justices, desires Ralph Stawell, Thomas Warr, Henry Walrond and Edward Ceely, Esquires, Commissioners of Sewers, to ascertain whether the wall needs facing with stone and to report at the next Sessions. In the meantime it is desired that all proceedings on the said order be stayed.

29. The Court, taking notice that there is a neglect of the ancient and laudable customs of the long robe, declares that the Custos Rotulorum and his deputy, and all the practising counsellors and barristers-at-law attending the Court ought to appear in their gowns, and it is ordered accordingly. The Court also orders that no clerk of any justice presume to come into any court of Quarter Sessions within the bar *sedente curia* without licence, upon pain of being proceeded against for contempt of this order.

30. Modification of the above order touching the bastard child of Joan Nurton, of which Christopher Torr is the reputed father [*p.* 183].

31. Reference to Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., Sir John Malett, Knt., John Turbervill, William Lacy, Robert Hawley and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between the parishioners of Withell and Taunton St James touching an alleged overcharging of the inhabitants of Withell for relief of the poor in Taunton St James. If the said justices cannot settle the matter, they are to report to the next General Sessions.

32. Order that the above order [*p.* 178] touching the wife and children of Hugh Beard shall stand without any alteration, notwithstanding a claim by the parishioners of Taunton St Mary Magdalen that they were taken by surprise because the Court was adjourned from Bridgewater to Wells. The Court

desires John Turbervill, Robert Hawley, Thomas Warr and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to settle (if they can) the dispute between the said parishioners and those of Michaelcreech touching the said matter, or else to bind over all persons at fault to the next General Sessions, at which the Court is resolved to put an end to the dispute.

33. Confirmation of an order by Francis Paulett and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base child of Edith Withey; and order that Thomas Everett of Glaston, the reputed father of the child, who has hitherto refused to obey the said order, shall pay the overseers of St John's, Glaston, 40s. for their expenses in prosecuting him, failing which, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

34. The above-mentioned order. Dated 25 June, 1675.

35. Order that the churchwardens of the various parishes and chapelries, when they pay their quarterly payments towards the relief of the maimed soldiers, do at the same time deliver to the constables of the hundreds and liberties in which their parishes and chapelries lie a certificate subscribed by themselves and the minister and overseers shewing what pensioners are living in their limits, how long they have been pensioners, whether they are indigent or not, and whether they have been maimed or not, and that the constables take the said certificates to the nearest two justices for approval before further payment be made of any pension. The treasurer or treasurers for the maimed soldiers are to pay no pensions to any pensioners except those certified as above. The Court also orders that a third part of the moneys raised for the maimed soldiers according to former directions be deducted for the ease of the county until further order.

36. Recusants convicted at this [Sessions] :—

John Cary of West Lidford.

William Cullifor, *alias* Gullifor, of Horsington, gentleman.

Robert Swetman of the same, gentleman.
Emmeline Brock of Chilton Canteloe, widow.
Thomas Martin of Baltonsborough, gentleman.
Mary, his wife.
Margaret Martin of the same, spinster.
Henry Foxhole, *alias* Foxewell, of the same, gentleman.
Mary, his wife.
William Barnard of the same.
Abigail Pullinge of the same.
Elizabeth Mogge of the same.
Mary Lavington of East Horrington.
William Evans of the same, gentleman.
Richard Orchard of the same.
Francis Perrey of the same.
John Cottham of the same.
The wife of the said William Evans.
John Evans of the same, gentleman.
The wife of the said John Cottham.
Mary Richards of the same.

37. Order that Mr. William Hinton, late deputy treasurer for the maimed soldiers, shall until further order execute the office of treasurer, and that John Acourt, Esq., the late treasurer, shall deliver to him the stock relating to the said office remaining in hand, as well as the bond which he gave him for the due performance of his trust as deputy treasurer; as John Carewe of Crocombe, Esq., refuses to take upon him the office of treasurer in the place of Mr. Acourt.

BATH SESSIONS. 5 October, 27 Charles II [1675].

1. Order, as above [*p.* 146] touching the empanelling of jurors for the Assizes.

2. Order that all the ditches, springs and watercourses adjoining the common highways of the county be well cleansed

and scoured before 10 December next by the owners and occupiers of the lands where they are, and that the hedges be cut and made, and the trees lopped and 'shrowded' by that time. The surveyors of the highways are to report defaulters to any justice before 20 December next, and such defaulters are to be bound over to the next General Sessions. The justices are also desired to bind over any surveyor who neglects his duty in the matter.

3. On a dispute between certain inhabitants of Taunton Magdalen and the surveyors of highways in that parish (Thomas Towills and Israel Batt) touching the failure of some of the said inhabitants to do their respective works for the repair of the highways; the Court orders that the persons living in certain cottages shall pay the surveyors 2s. each, the occupiers of ploughlands 10s. a day, and the owners of horses fit to labour 3s. a day, according to statute, if they have not done their works, allowance being made to the occupiers of ploughlands and owners of horses for any work that they may have done. As to the said cottagers, who are not yet bound over, the Court desires John Turbervill, Thomas Warr and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to examine the complaint against them and order reasonable payment to be made by them for any default. The said cottagers are to pay only 3s. 4d. to the Clerk of the Peace as their fees for discharging them from the presentment wherewith they now stand charged.

4. Order that Charles Liske, who is indicted of procuring money by false tokens, do offer to be tried on his traverse at the next General Sessions, and that John Hall, his prosecutor, who has failed to appear, do pay him 20s. for his costs in attending at this Sessions. If he fails to pay, Edward Strode, Esq., justice, is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

5. Reference to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Francis Poulett, Esq., John Bayly, LL.D., William Fane, D.D., Thomas Holt, D.D., and Edward Strode and Richard Crosse,

Esquires, justices, of a complaint by Henry Gutch, gentleman, Nicholas Hopkins, and other inhabitants of St John's, Glaston, that the churchwardens and overseers of the parish have secretly made an unequal and unjust rate on them, and got it confirmed by contrivance when there was no one present to oppose it, rating them not only for their lands in the parish, but also for their means and stock, which was never done before, and omitting to rate themselves and several other inhabitants for their stock. Ten days' notice of the meeting of the justices is to be given in the parish church of St John's, Glaston, immediately after Service and Sermon, in order that there may be no surprise ; and if the justices cannot settle the matter they are to report to the next General Sessions.

6. Order that the bastard son of William Lambert [*see p. 181*] remain with his mother in Halse, where she is legally settled, until he be 7 years old, and that afterwards he be removed to Laurence Liddeard, where he was born, and settled there.

7. Confirmation of an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esq., justices, for the removal of Richard Treasure with his wife and child from Holcombe to Froomezellwood, and for their absolute settlement there.

8. Confirmation of an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., justices, for the removal of Hannah Langdon, *alias* May, from Buckland Dinham to Standerweeke ; and order accordingly.

9. Reference to Sir William Wyndham, Bart., John Turbervill, William Lacy and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, of an appeal against an order by John Turbervill and William Lacy for the removal of Frances Trott with her bastard child from St Decuman's to Ashpriors. If they cannot settle the matter, they are desired to report to the next General Sessions, at which the dispute will be finally determined.

10. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 10s. each to William Bush of Keynesham, Hugh Alson of the same, and John Shepherd of Bathampton.

11. Confirmation of an order by John Turbervill and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard child of Joan Nurton, the reputed father being Christopher Tarr of Chipstable ; and order accordingly.

12. Discharge on appeal of an order by Sir George Horner, Knt., and Warwick Bampfild, Esquire, justices, for the removal of Benjamin Viner from Woolverton to North Bradley; and order for the absolute settlement of Viner at Woolverton

13. On an appeal against an order by Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B., and Sir George Horner, Knt., justices, for the removal of John Jones from Buckland to Midsomer Norton ; the Court orders that Jones be removed back to Buckland and settled there, unless the parishioners thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

14. Confirmation of an order by Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Ruth Osmond from North Currey to Michaelcreech, unless the parishioners of Michaelcreech within a month pay 40s. to those of North Currey for their expenses in attending at this Sessions. If such payment is made and notice of appeal given, the Court will finally determine the matter at the next General Sessions. Meanwhile Ruth is to remain at Michaelcreech.

15. The justices to whom the dispute touching the wife and children of Hugh Beard was referred at Bridgewater Sessions last [*p.* 184] having failed to settle the matter ; the Court by agreement orders that Joan, wife of Hugh Beard, with her children under 7 years old, be removed from Taunton St Mary Magdalen to Michaelcreech, and settled there, and that on payment of 5*l.* by the former to the latter parish, the parishioners of the latter do convey to persons to be nominated by

the overseers, for the use of the poor of Taunton Magdalen, a cottage or plot of ground 60 ft. long and 6 ft. broad bounded on the east by a path leading from the High Street to Hureditch Mount, on the west by the way leading to Poolebootes, on the north by the town of Taunton, and on the south-east by the lands of Philip Lissant, in the tything of Hollway, lately part of the waste land of the lord etc. in the said tything. The other children of Joan are to be absolutely settled at Taunton Magdalen.

16. Order to the treasurer for the hospitals of the Western Division to pay to John Isham, gentleman, for the use of the overseers of Curry Rivell, 3*l.* 8*s.* disbursed by the said overseers for the relief of the poor in the hospital in the parish of Langport Estover, and 5*l.* for Edward Bale, the present governor of the hospital.

Note at foot :—Query if it should not be Curry Rivell hospital.

17. Appointment of Philip Goodman of Wiviliscombe as constable of the hundred of Kingsbury West in the place of John Musgrave, who has served for a year and more ; and order that Goodman take the oath of his office before a justice within a week, under penalty of 10*l.*, or else be bound over to the next General Sessions.

18. Renewal of the order made at Bridgewater Sessions last touching a dispute between the parishioners of Withell and Taunton St James [*p.* 184], no action having been taken hitherto in pursuance of the same.

WELLS SESSIONS. 11 January, 27 Charles II [1676].

1. The Court declares that healthy single persons may go to any place to serve for one year, upon any legal retainer, such masters, mistresses or dames (being payers to poor rates and

other usual taxes) as are qualified in the judgement of the nearest justice to receive them ; without any discharges being given to indemnify any parish to which they shall go from being chargeable by reason of their settling in service there.

2. Ordered that Richard Crosse, Esquire, justice, do restore to Israel Briant and his wife the 6*l.* levied from them for being present at a conventicle ; as it appears that they were not present, their conviction being due to false information given by a constable, since deceased.

3. Order that Edward Rossiter of Taunton St Mary Magdalen, stationer, on some Lord's day immediately after sermon, do make public acknowledgement in the parish church of the said parish of his offence in speaking scandalous words against Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and do produce at next General Sessions a certificate by the minister that he has done so.

4. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 20*s.* to William Gilbert of Bridgewater, who has shewn by his petition that he was wounded in the late king's service.

5. Restoration to Stephen Worledge of Yerlington of the pension of 40*s.* yearly which was formerly granted to him and afterwards withdrawn ; on a petition by some inhabitants of Yerlington shewing that he was wounded in the late king's service.

6. Order that Catherine Dinham of Glaston, widow, do pay 2*s.* 6*d.* weekly to the overseers of Glaston towards the relief of Catherine, her daughter-in-law, and Catherine, her grandchild, unless Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Francis Poulett, Esq., justices, shall think fit to lessen the said weekly payment ; as it appears that she has fraudulently got possession of an estate of 25*l.* yearly belonging to her son, (who has run away leaving his wife and child likely to become chargeable at Glaston), and also has an estate of 20*l.* yearly of her own.

7. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Ralph Stawell, William Helliard, Thomas Warr, Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, to view the bridge called Load Bridge in the parishes of Martock and Longe Sutton, which is said to be greatly broken and decayed, and to ascertain by whom it ought to be repaired. If it appears to be a county bridge, they are to ascertain the cost of repair and report to the next General Sessions.

8. Order for the absolute settlement of John Joanes at Midsomer Norton. [See p. 189.]

9. On complaint by William Phillipps of Longashton that he and Richard Large of Bedminster were chosen constables for the hundred of Hartcliffe *cum* Bedminster at a Court Leet held about Michaelmas last, and that Large has refused to be sworn; the Court orders Large take the oath forthwith, and desires Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Edward Gorges and Richard Morgan, Esquires, justices, to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses to do so.

10. On complaint that the poor rate formerly made in the parish of St John's, Glaston, is unequal; the Court orders that the overseers of the parish do give public notice in the parish church on Sunday next of their intention to make a new rate in the said church at 9 o'clock in the morning on the following Thursday, and that if they and the parishioners cannot then agree on a new rate, they shall appear in person at the palace of Wells at 9 o'clock in the morning on Thursday, 27 January, before Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Francis Poulett, Esq., John Bayly, LL.B., William Fane, D.D., Thomas Holt, D.D., and William Strode, Edward Strode and Richard Crosse, justices, for the settlement of the said rate. In the meantime, the poor rate there, without any assessments of any of the parishioners for their stocks, is confirmed, and collections are to be made thereon of all payments up to Christmas last.

11. Confirmation of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Ralph Stawell, Esq., justices, for the removal of William Babb from Muchelney to Huish ; and order accordingly.

12. Confirmation of a rate lately made by the churchwardens and overseers of Fiddington for binding poor children of the parish as apprentices. And on information that William Wickham and John Grove of the said parish have had apprentices placed on them without any money, and are notwithstanding rated with the rest of the parishioners for binding out apprentices as aforesaid, the Court discharges them of their said apprentices, if they find themselves aggrieved or overburdened with them.

13. Order,—on a dispute between the inhabitants of Portishead and William Beakes of the same,—that Beakes do keep and provide for Sarah Heale, a poor child of the parish placed with him as apprentice in respect of a tenement worth 60*l.* yearly which he rents of Sir Thomas Hooke, in accordance with an indenture of apprenticeship dated 28 July, 1675, unless he shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions.

14. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt., and William Lacy, Esq., justices, for the removal of Henry Upton from Halse to Fitzhead ; and order accordingly.

15. Reference to Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., John Buckland, Edward Gorges and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between William Barrell, the younger, of Keynesham, and William Pinkard of the same, touching the beating and wounding of the former by the latter, whereof the latter is indicted at this Sessions. If they cannot settle the matter, they are to bind over all parties at fault to the next General Sessions.

16. On information that James Jallopp, a poor child of Kingston, was lately bound apprentice to the late tenant of a

tenement now in the possession of John Knight, and that the said late tenant has left the tenement, and that Jallopp is troubled in his head with a scurfy humour ; the Court orders the overseers of the parish to take the best care they can for the cure of Jallopp's trouble, and when he is cured to provide him with clothing of double array, and have him bound apprentice to the said Knight. In case of disobedience, John Turbervill, Esq., justice, is to bind Knight over to the next General Sessions.

17. On complaint by the parishioners of Higham that the parishioners of Uphill refuse obedience to an order by Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., and Ralph Stawell, Esq., for the settlement of Alice, wife of John Parker, with her child, at Uphill ; the Court confirms the above order, from which no appeal was made, and orders that it be obeyed.

18. Postponement until next Sessions of the settlement of an appeal by the parishioners of Cothellston against an order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of the four children of William Canniford and Elizabeth, his wife, both deceased, from Kingston to Cothellston, in accordance with a discharge given by the officers of Cothellston to those of Kingston ; as notice of the appeal has not been given to the parishioners of Kingston.

19. Repeal and discharge, on appeal, of an order by John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Anthony Say from Bath Easton to Bath Ford ; and order for the absolute settlement of Say at Bath Easton.

20. Repeal and discharge, on appeal, of an order by John Hall and Richard Lewis, Esquires, justices of Wilts, for the removal of Catherine Bayly with her bastard son from Winckfeild, co. Wilts, to Froomezellwood ; and order for the absolute settlement of Catherine and her child at Winckfeild.

21. Order by E. Phelipps, junior, and Robert Hunt, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Christabel

Pounfeild of Northover, singlewoman ; the reputed father being Peter Stone of Ivelchester, yeoman. Dated 23 December, 1675.

22. Modification of the above order on appeal, Stone's weekly contributions being somewhat reduced.

23. Order by John Turbervill and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Catherine Bryer of Orchard, widow ; the reputed father being Roger Symonds of Taunton St James. Dated 13 October, 1675.

24. Confirmation of the above order.

25. Order by the Hon. William Fane, D.D., William Bull and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of Francis Tucker, a bastard son of Susanna Tucker of Spaxton, singlewoman. Dated 24 April, 1675.

26. Confirmation of the above order.

27. Order made at the Assizes and General Gaol Delivery at Wells on 31 July, 27 Charles II, before Francis North, Knt., Chief Justice of the Bench, and Vere Bertie, Esq., Baron of the Exchequer, as follows :—

In consideration of the extraordinary default of the appearance of jurors summoned to appear to serve as well on life and death as between party and party on the *nisi prius*, the Court orders that the bailiffs of the several hundreds and liberties shall, within a month before the General Sessions to be held after Epiphany next, and thenceforth every year at the same time, bring a list or note of the freeholders' names to the justices of the several divisions, who are to correct and settle the freeholders' book at the following General Sessions. The under-sheriff is to give timely notice of this order to the bailiffs.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 4 April, 28 Charles II. [1676.]

1. Deposition by Richard Millard of Shepton Mallett, aged 54, that he has known the bridge called Barrmill Bridge for 40 years, and about that time ago saw 40 of the inhabitants of Raddon repairing it with gravel and small stones; that the same persons repaired the approaches to the bridge; that it was then but a horse bridge; that he would have given his evidence about 2 years ago when the bridge was to be repaired, but could not be heard; that some of the inhabitants of Raddon said, "Why do you trouble yourself? It is a small charge for the county, but it will be heavy on us"; that wagons and carts always went through the water, the bridge being too narrow; and that Edward Coward has confessed to him that he was one of the persons employed on repairing the bridge.

Deposition by Philip Hunt of Roade, weaver, aged 28, that to his knowledge the bridge has always been a horse bridge with a track in the middle, and too narrow for wagons.

2. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 7*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* to Mr. Edward Davies for disbursements on the repair of the county gaol, as appears by particulars given on oath by Peter Stone.

3. Order that Catherine Bryer, who has been committed by a *mittimus* of John Turbervill and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to the House of Correction at Taunton for a year for bastardy, and who has an infectious disease which is likely to infect her fellow prisoners, be discharged from her said imprisonment, and that the overseers of Taunton St Mary Magdalen, (of which parish Catherine is an inhabitant), do pay 27*s.* to Mr. Alford, now governor of the said house, for the maintenance of Catherine and her child during the 9 weeks of her sickness. If they refuse to do so, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

4. Order that all constables, tythingmen, headboroughs, churchwardens and overseers in the county do from time to

time make diligent search and strict enquiry for the discovery of offences and offenders against the laws prohibiting the importation of lean and fat cattle, dead or alive, and beef, bacon and pork, from Ireland and other parts beyond seas, and dispose of such cattle and goods according to the intents mentioned in the several Acts in that behalf; as information has been given to the Court that the said laws are frequently broken. The sheriff is to cause a copy of this order to be delivered to the principal officers of the parishes and places of Porlock, Portbury, Mynehead, Watchett, Bridgewater, Stert, West Weston, Uphill, Woodspringe, Wrington, St George's, Clevedon, and Kingston Seymour.

5. Account of William Hinton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers for 1675 in the place of John Carewe of Crocombe, Esq., who refused to execute the office, as he was very lately sheriff.

Receipts. 747*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

Payments. 615*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

MINUTE BOOK 1676-1687.

ILCHESTER SESSIONS. 4 April, 28 Charles II (*cont.*).

6. Discharge of John Powell, a poor child of Cannington parish, from his apprenticeship with David Tuxewell of the same parish, lately deceased; as it appears that Tuxewell received with him 3*l.*, (being moneys given by Mr. Benjamin Vaughan, deceased, once minister of Charlinch, for the binding forth of apprentices in Cannington parish), without giving any security for repayment thereof, and David, son and administrator of the deceased, has refused in open court to give such security.

7. Licence,—in pursuance of a certificate by the minister, churchwardens and overseers of Longe Sutton and other places adjacent to the common of Kingsmore, and a grant by Ralph

Stawell, Esq., lord of the waste grounds in the said moor,—for William Edmonds of the parish of Longe Sutton to build a cottage on the said waste grounds near the house or grounds of Thomas Janes, and have the same for life, its subsequent disposal according to statute being in the hands of the churchwardens and overseers of the parish. The cottage is to be deemed within the said parish.

8. Discharge on appeal of an order by Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., and Edward Gorges, Esq., justices, for the removal of Nicholas Rogers from Nailesey [to Clutton]; and order that he be absolutely settled at Nailesey.

9. Order,—on complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of St John's, Glaston, that William Strode, Esq., refuses to pay poor rate,—that the last poor rate made in the parish be confirmed, and collections and payments made thereof accordingly; and that any two justices living in or near the parish do grant their warrant for levying the same by distress from any persons who refuse to pay, committing them according to statute in default of such distress.

10. Order for the settlement of George Hodges in the vill or tything of Layton in Cloford parish, unless good cause to the contrary be shewed at the next General Sessions; as it appears that he was last settled there, and not in Cranmore parish.

11. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 10s. as a gratuity to George Gainfeild of West Cranmore.

12. Appointment of Thomas Moore of Spargrove, Esq., as treasurer of the maimed soldiers in place of John Carewe of Croombe, Esq. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., Thomas Warr, William Heliar and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, to take the account of the late treasurer.

13. Appointment in like terms of Robert Mellier of Whetthill, gentleman, as treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division in place of William Whittchurch, the elder, of Froomzellwood, gentleman.

14. The like of George Upon of Fitzhead, gentleman, as treasurer of the hospitals for the Western Division in place of Thomas Gatchell of North Petherton, gentleman.

15. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 5*l.* to Robert Carven of Taunton for his good service in discovering the persons who committed a robbery on Mr. Thomas Rogers, and conveying them to prison.

16. The Court desires the justice nearest to the town of Wiveliscombe to bind over Eleanor Davy to the next General Sessions, that she may there receive correction for her lewd life, she being the mother of a base child which is likely to become chargeable to Wiveliscombe.

17. Reference to Sir Edward Phillipps, Knt., William Heliar, Robert Hunt, Thomas Warr, Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by William Chaunt of Odcombe, husbandman, that the overseers of Odcombe have wholly neglected to secure the performance of an order made at Ivelchester Sessions, 1674, for the maintenance of the bastard child of his daughter, Mary Chaunt, by John Linterne, and that as the mother and reputed father of the child are both dead, the maintenance and education of the child is wholly left to him, he being a very poor man. The said justices are to bind over to the next General Sessions either of the parties who neglect to perform their award.

18. Order increasing the weekly amount payable by Catherine Dinham under an order made at the last Sessions [*p.* 191] from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*; on the petition of Catherine Downton, her daughter-in-law, setting forth that she has lately

broken her arm and is unable at present to get any part of her livelihood, and that the said 2s. 6d. is not enough to maintain her and her daughter.

19. On complaint by German Churchowse of Yeovill that Edward Hole, the elder, of Yeovill, who owes him 3*l.* and more for his labour in building a house and was bound over to this Sessions, has forfeited his recognisance by neglecting to appear; the Court orders the forfeited recognisance to be estreated, and refers the whole matter back to Sir Francis Wyndham, Bart., who is to order Hole to make payment, and on his neglect to do so, to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

20. The Court declares that 200 acres of land lately enclosed in the parish of Butleigh ought to be rated for church and poor rates in the said parish, as other lands in the parish are rated; and refers the settlement of the said rates to Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Francis Pawlett and Robert Hunt, Esquires, John Bayly, LL.B., and Henry Bull, Edward Strode and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, who are to report at the next General Sessions if they cannot settle them.

21. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps and Sir Francis Rolle, Knights, and Robert Hunt, Peregrine Palmer, Thomas Warr, Henry Bull and William Clarke, Esquires, to settle a complaint by the inhabitants of Pawlett that, whereas Sir Richard Grabham, Knt., by his will gave to the poor of the parish 5*l.* yearly out of some lands in the parish, which payment was made by William Bacon, gentleman, until his death, one John Bacon of Stoaklane, gentleman, who now enjoys the said lands, refuses to pay the said annuity. The said John Bacon and the inhabitants of Pawlett are to attend on the said justices on Wednesday next, the 12th April, by 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at the house of Mr. John Lininge called "The Angel" in Bridgewater, and the justices are to bind Mr. Bacon over to the next General Sessions if he fails to do so.

22. The Court desires Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., Sir John Churchill, Knt., and Edward Gorges, Richard Morgan, Francis Vaughan and Hugh Tynt, Esquires, to examine into a dispute between the parishioners of Backwell and Mrs. Eleanor Goodrick touching the refusal of the latter (on the grounds that she is over-rated to the poor and that others in the parish have no apprentice placed on them) to maintain Hannah Pope, a poor child of the parish, who was placed as an apprentice on her or her tenant in Backwell, and was maintained by the said tenant until he died. The said justices are also desired to order payment to be made of the costs of the parishioners in maintaining the child since the death of the said tenant.

23. Order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Eleanor Davy of Wiveliscombe, singlewoman, by George Benison, the younger, of the same, brasier. Dated 29 March, 1676.

24. Order by John Turbervill and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a base son of Joan Ball of Halse, singlewoman, by Richard Card of Fitzhead, carpenter. Dated 17 March, 1676.

25. Order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Mary Drayhton of Loapen, singlewoman; the reputed father being John Tachell of Kingsbury East, husbandman. Dated 3 March, 1676.

26. Account by Thomas Towell and Israel Batt, supervisors of the highways in the parish of Taunton St Mary Magdalen, for the year preceding Easter Tuesday, 1676.

Disbursements. 39*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

Due to the parish and
in stock

4*s.* 5*d.*

2 D

27. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p.* 173], except that item 9 is reduced 2*d.*, item 14 is omitted, and the two following items are added, viz., men for cutting an acre of beans and binding, 2*s.*, and men for drawing an acre of hemp, 4*s.* 6*d.*

28. The Grand Jury present the house built in Paules Street, Taunton St Mary Magdalen, as a meeting house of Dissenters.

29. At the Assizes and General Gaol Delivery held at Taunton Castle on 17 March, 28 Charles II :—

The Court recommends the above presentment to the consideration of the justices at their next General Quarter Sessions after Easter next, and desires them to certify at the next Assizes what action they have taken in the matter.

30. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and William Lacy, Esq., justices, for the removal of William Davy from Mynehead to Dunstar ; and order accordingly.

31. The Court desires John Turbervill, Edward Court and Edward Clarke, Esquires, justices, to grant their warrant for the suppression of the meeting house in Paules Street, Taunton, and to certify the Court of their proceedings herein at the next General Sessions.

32. On complaint by David Babb that, although he has paid more than 25*l.* in weekly instalments of 2*s.* towards the maintenance of his bastard son by Joan Titefoote, the parishioners of Gregory Stoake have commenced several actions against him at Common Law, and now have an action depending against him in the borough court of Bridgewater on his bond of 40*l.* for the discharge of the parish from the said base child, and will be satisfied with nothing but the penalty of the said bond ; the Court orders that the order for the child's

maintenance and the security given thereon be delivered up to Babb, he first giving fresh security (to be allowed by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr, William Clarke and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices,) for the discharge of the parish, and that then the child be delivered to Babb for education and breeding at his own costs until it be 8 years old. The said justices are desired to bind over to the next General Sessions any persons who fail to obey this order.

33. Order,—on a dispute between the parishes of Withell and Taunton St James,—for the discharge of the last order made by two justices touching payment for the relief of the poor at Taunton St James ; as the parishioners of the latter parish have failed to appear to make what defence they could for the continuance of the said order.

34. On a dispute between Thomas Owen and Philip Meade of North Currey touching 2 oxen of James Goold and John Goold which were stolen by one Chesterdon, seized by Owen, and delivered by him to Meade, who is reeve of the manor of North Currey ; the Court orders Meade to pay Owen 10s. for his expenses in prosecuting the said felon and on account of the low price which he, Meade, paid for the oxen, and desires the nearest justice to bind him over to the next General Sessions if he be remiss in obeying this order.

35. Order to the sheriff to summon a jury for the next General Sessions to determine whether Susanna Smith ought to be settled at Linge or at Gregory Stoake. She shall be settled according to the finding of the jury, and the parish where she shall be settled shall pay the costs of the other parish in maintaining her in the meantime.

36. Order for the punishment of Joan Ball of Halse, single-woman, mother of a base son who is likely to become chargeable to the parish of Halse.

37. Account of William Whittchurch of Froomezellwood, gentleman, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1675.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Receipts. | 127 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 4½ <i>d.</i> |
| Payments. | 90 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> |

38. Order to the treasurer for the maimed soldiers to pay 100*l.* out of the balance in his hands to William Alford, governor of the House of Correction at Taunton, to enable him to keep employed those of the prisoners who are able to work, on his giving security (to be approved by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices,) for repayment of the said sum at the end of a year.

BRIDGEWATER SESSION. 11 July, 28 Charles II. [1676.]

1. Order that George Cleeves of Northover in the parish of Ivelchester do deliver up to one Vaughan the goods which Vaughan lodged in his custody when he was committed for a misdemeanour. If he fail to do so, the nearest justice is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

2. Order that for the future the inhabitants of the hundred of Abdick and Bullston may from time to time according to their ancient custom elect any sufficient person or persons living in the parish of Ilmister (which is a tenth part of the said hundred) to be constable or constables of the hundred, notwithstanding a late order of Court that they should not do so.

3. On complaint by — Foley, Esq., the possessor of a brewhouse in the parish of Taunton St James, that he is over-rated for the poor; the Court orders that the rates heretofore payable by him or John Fort, Esq., the former possessor of the brewhouse, be paid to the overseers of the said parish, and that

after such payment has been made, Thomas Warr, John Turbevill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, do examine the said complaint and settle a fair rate if they can, or else certify the Court of their opinion at the next General Sessions.

4. Order, on a dispute between the parishes of Weston Zoyland and Spaxton, for the settlement of John Osborne with his wife and family at Spaxton ; as although the churchwardens and overseers of Spaxton have given a certificate undertaking to receive them back if they became chargeable at Weston Zoyland, the Court declares that such a certificate is not good to impose any poor or remove them from one parish to another without the consent of the parish in which they desire to live.

5. Order that the common alehouse in Winecanton belonging to Charles Matthews of Winecanton be suppressed, and that Matthews be disabled from keeping any common alehouse, victualling house, or tippling house in Winecanton for 3 years ; as he has several times misdemeaned himself by allowing unlawful tippling and harbouring vagrants and other disorderly and idle persons, especially one Bartholomew Romane, who has been convicted this Sessions as a common vagrant and wandering rogue, it appearing upon evidence that he carried about with him several unlawful picklock instruments. If Matthews fail to obey this order, any justice near Winecanton is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions.

6. Order to the treasurer for the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 13*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* to William Alford, governor of the House of Correction at Taunton, in payment of disbursements for the repair of the said house.

7. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Ralph Stawell, William Heliar, Thomas Warr, Edward Court and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, to view the bridge called Load Bridge in the parishes of Longe Sutton and Martock, and

the bridge called Gawbridge Bowe in the latter parish, before next General Sessions, and to find out who ought to repair them. If either of the bridges appear to be a county bridge, they are to ascertain the cost of repairing it and report at the said Sessions.

8. Postponement for final settlement at next Sessions of an appeal by the inhabitants of Ile Abbotts against an order by Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Robert White with his wife and family from Aishill to Ile Abbotts.

9. Order for the settlement of George Hodges at Babington, unless the inhabitants thereof shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions ; as the inhabitants of the vill or tything of Layton have shewn that he lived once at Babington, and although he was disturbed there, he was not legally disturbed, and it appears on his oath that he lived in Babington from Whitsun to 31 March, 1676, and was not removed during that time.

10. On a dispute between the Lady Warr and other parishioners of West Munckton and the overseers of the same parish touching poor rates and the placing of poor people in St Mary's hospital in the same parish, it appearing that the late overseers and churchwardens raised several sums and employed them in building a new house for the poor, against which the Lady Warr and other inhabitants appeal; the Court confirms the rate made by the late officers so far as concerns the collection of 24 rates thereon, and refers the further consideration of the dispute to Sir Halswell Tynt, Bart., Sir Francis Rolle, Knt., and Peregrine Palmer, John Turbervill, Thomas Warr, Robert Hawley, William Clarke and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, who are to examine the accounts of the late officers, allow all disbursements for relief of the poor and repairs, and if they find that the officers have legally disbursed more than the proportion of 24 rates, to confirm the collection of 2 or 3 rates more at

their discretion, reimburse the said officers what they are legally out of stock, and compose the dispute or else certify the Court of their opinion at the next General Sessions.

11. Order discharging Edward Strode, Esq., justice, of Jonathan Strode, his apprentice, who is a person of very lewd life, given to much idleness and neglecting to perform the duty of his apprenticeship.

12. The Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr, Henry Walrond and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to enquire into the truth of an allegation by Mr. William Phelipps, counsel for the inhabitants of Knowle and Dowlisshwake, that Harford Lane between Dawes Dry Ground and the Hatches, for the non-repair of which a presentment was exhibited against the said inhabitants at the last General Sessions, is not a king's highway ; and if it is a king's highway, to ascertain who should repair it ; and to certify their opinion of the state of the said way at the next General Sessions.

13. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 5 marks to Robert Jones of Taunton St James as a reward for endeavouring to apprehend and causing to be apprehended the bodies of John Beavis, Robert Nosse and Thomas Nosse, of the same parish, for a robbery on the person of Thomas Rogers, gentleman, for which the said felons were condemned and executed at the last Assizes.

14. The Court desires Sir Hugh Smith, K.B. and Bart., and Francis Vaughan and John Buckland, Esquires, justices, to examine the account of Edmund Wall, late overseer of Wedmore, cause him to make payment of any moneys remaining in his hand, and commit him to the common gaol if he refuses to do so.

15. Order to the treasurer of the maimed soldiers to pay 10s. to John Beasley of Holt.

16. The like order for Edward Aplin.

17. Reference to Maurice, Viscount Fitzhardinge, Sir John Malett, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, of a dispute between the parishioners of Corton Dinham and John Androse of the same, who lately ran away leaving his wife and children chargeable to the parish. Any persons failing to obey the justices' order are to be bound over to the next General Sessions.

18. On complaint by the inhabitants of Overstowey that Charles Rich, Richard Lide, Humphrey Hunniball and John Morse of the same parish have procured licences to sell beer, ale and other liquors, and by colour thereof keep very disorderly houses and 'haunt' rogues and other uncivil persons therein; the Court suppresses the said persons from selling such liquors without order of Court, and desires the nearest justice to bind them over if they fail to obey this order.

19. Confirmation of an order by Sir Francis Wyndham and Sir John Malett, Knights, for the removal of William Ambrose and his family from Milborne Port to Shaftesbury, co. Dorset; and order accordingly.

20. Reference to the two justices nearest to Mare of a complaint by the churchwardens and overseers of the said parish that Christopher Jeanes, who possesses an estate in the parish worth 10*l.* yearly which is now managed for his use by John Treasure of Glaston, has lately gone from the parish leaving his 3 children chargeable thereto, without making provision for them out of his said estate or otherwise. Any persons failing to obey the said justices' order are to be bound over to the next General Sessions.

21. Discharge of an order by Joseph Langton and John Harrington, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Jacob Clarke and his wife from Paulton to High Littleton, and order for their settlement at Paulton, where Clarke rents an estate of 13*l.* 10*s.*

a year, as appears by the oaths of Thomas Merchant and John Baily, both of Paulton.

22. Discharge of Abraham Wise from his apprenticeship with William Treherne of Froomzellwood, who has very much abused him by immoderate correction and by not allowing him sufficient meat, drink and clothes.

23. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division to pay 13*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* to William Alford, governor of the House of Correction at Taunton, for moneys disbursed by him on the repair of the said house, according to a bill of particulars subscribed by John Turbervill, Esq., justice.

24. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Bart., Sir John Malett, Knt., and William Lacy, Esq., justices, for the removal of George Oliver with his wife and family from Dunstar to Southmoulton, co. Devon, Oliver having run away leaving his wife and children likely to be chargeable to Dunstar ; and order to the constables of the hundred of Carhampton to assist the churchwardens and overseers of Dunstar in carrying out this order, unless Oliver can shew good cause to the contrary at the next General Sessions, after giving due notice to the inhabitants of Dunstar of his intention to do so. If Oliver shall give sufficient security for the discharge of the parish of Dunstar, he may remain there until February next.

25. Report by Sir Edward Phelipps and William Heliar as to the maintenance of the bastard child of Mary Chaunt by John Linterne [see *p.* 199], awarding that John Linterne, father of the said John, shall contribute 9*d.* weekly. Dated 22 April, 1676.

26. Confirmation of the above award, and order that the said John Linterne, the father, who was bound over to this Sessions for failing to obey the same, and has forfeited his recognizance by not appearing, shall give security for the performance of the award and pay 20*s.* to William Chaunt for his

costs in prosecuting the matter at this and other Sessions, failing which, the said justices are to bind him over to the next General Sessions for contempt. The forfeited recognizance is to be estreated into the Exchequer forthwith.

27. Order,—in correction of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., Sir John Malett, Knt., and William Lacy, Esq., justices, for the removal of Elizabeth Briant, daughter of Catherine Francklin, from Carhampton to Bishopp Lideard,—that Elizabeth shall remain at Bishopp Lideard until she be 7 years old, and shall then be removed to Carhampton for settlement.

28. Order for the removal of Thomas Goold with his wife and her bastard child (born in Cannington) from Cannington to Curry Rivell, where Goold was settled without legal disturbance. But the said child, as soon as it shall be 7 years old or become chargeable to Curry Rivell or lose its mother by death, shall be removed to Cannington and settled there.

29. Order that William Curry do pay to James Orchard of Little Winsor, co. Dorset, or his assigns, the 4*l.* due to him for wages, as well as 20*s.* for his expenses in recovering the same; as the Court is informed that Curry has confessed that the debt was due to Orchard, but said that he would not pay the same until he had put him to some expense. If Curry fails to obey this order, William Heliar, Esq., justice, is desired to bind him over to the next General Sessions. The recognizance forfeited by Curry through not appearing at this Sessions is to be estreated into the Exchequer forthwith.

30. Refence to Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Francis Poulett, Edward Strobe, John Bayly and Richard Crosse, Esquires, justices, of a dispute between the parishioners of Glaston and Thomas Downton of the same touching the maintenance of the latter's wife, which dispute was referred to the Court by the Judges of Assize at their last Sessions. The said

justices are to report to the next General Sessions. Downton's recognizance now filed is to stand until next Sessions, and he is to pay the inhabitants of Glaston such moneys for their costs in attending this Sessions, the Assizes, and other Sessions, as the said justices shall direct.

31. Ordered that in case the justices' clerks do not file their recognizances on the first day of every Session, they shall lose their *debets* unless returned the second day of the Session before the rising of the Court.

And in case the parties bound over do not appear the same second day upon having been twice called, their recognizances shall be estreated and not called any more.

And in case any justices shall take any recognizances and not return them into Court, the statutory penalty of 5*l.* shall be levied on them, and if the failure of return be found to be in the justices' clerks, such clerks shall be fined 5*l.* and bound to their good behaviour.

And that all alehouse recognizances be duly taken and filed, and that the Clerk of the Peace's fee of 4*d.* for each recognizance be paid on filing thereof.

BATH SESSION. 3 October, 28 Charles II. [1676].

1. Order touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Jane Checkford of Chard, singlewoman; the reputed father being Naboth Warren of Wambrooke, co. Dorset.

2. Order that Mr. William Harrison, agent or under-sheriff of Sir Halswell Tynt, Bart., late Sheriff, do pay to the tythingman, churchwardens and overseers of Combehay, for the repair of a bridge in the said parish, the 40*s.* which was lately imposed on the parish as a fine for the disrepair of the said bridge, estreated into the Exchequer, and levied by him. If he fail to do so, the nearest justice is to bind him over to the next General Sessions for contempt, when he will be committed unless he can shew good cause for his disobedience.

3. Order by Thomas Warre and Henry Walrond touching the maintenance of Jane Checkford's bastard daughter. Dated 19 September, 1676.

Ordered by the Court that the said order be vacated, because above. [See No. 1.]

4. Order by John Buckland and Peter Roynon, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Elizabeth Townesend of Clutton, singlewoman ; the reputed father being Joseph Purnell of Farrington. Dated 2 October, 1676.

5. Confirmation of the settlement of George Hodges at Babington. [See *p.* 206.]

6. Discharge of Hester Bursey, spinster, from her apprenticeship with Henry Creech of Charleton Mackerell ; as complaint is made that she is suffered to run up and down the country in an idle manner, and that her master takes no care for her maintenance and orderly demeanour.

7. Confirmation of an order by Sir John Malett, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, for the removal of Thomas Brooke from Queene Cammell to Sparkeford ; and order accordingly.

8. Confirmation of an order by William Bull and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Richard Kinge from Ashcott to Shepton Mallett ; and order accordingly.

9. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals for the Eastern Division to pay 20*l.* to Mr. William Alford or his order.

10. The Court desires Sir Thomas Bridges, Knt., and John Harrington and Edward Nevill, Esquires, justices, to examine the truth of a complaint by William Ambrose, rector of Farmbury, that Richard Doddimeade and his sons, James and Richard, were admitted into the said parish about 2 years ago for conveniency of their trade without his consent, and that they are very troublesome and the father very chargeable to

the parish, and that he suspects Doddimeade and his wife of having set fire to a pease mow near his dwelling, they having threatened to do him an injury. The said justices are to bind over Doddimeade and his wife to the next General Sessions if they have misdemeaned themselves.

11. Order that the parishioners of Radstock,—who have combined together to prevent William Magges from procuring a habitation, although they cannot deny that he ought to be settled amongst them as one of their parishioners,—shall either provide work and service for him, and allow him some place for his habitation, or else give him a certificate freeing him from becoming chargeable to any other parish where he shall live to get his livelihood. If they fail to do so, the nearest justice is desired to put into execution against them the statute for relief of the poor.

12. Reference to the justice nearest to South Brewham of a complaint by James Savery, overseer of South Brewham, that John Walter, son of Humphrey Walter of South Brewham, has returned to the said parish in contempt of an order by Robert Hunt, Esq., and Dr. Holt, D.D., justices, for his removal to Brewton, where he was a covenant servant for 40 days, against which order no appeal has been made at this Sessions. The said justice is desired to punish John Walter for his said contempt.

13. The Court desires Peter Roynon, Francis Vaughan and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, to enquire into a complaint that John Midlam and his wife, who would have been removed from East Brent to Babcary if Robert Bagge of East Brent had not promised to discharge the said parish from them, are now become chargeable to the parish, and that Midlam is now gone away leaving his wife chargeable; and if they find that the said promise was made, to impose on Bagge a weekly sum for the maintenance of Midlam's wife, and bind him over to the next General Sessions if he refuses obedience to their order.

14. It is certified by Sir Edward Phelipps, the younger, Knt., and Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, that the way touching which the inhabitants of Knowle and Dowlishwake are presented is not the king's highway.

15. Appointment of Thomas Sweeteinge of Bishoppps Liddeard to be constable of the hundred of Kingsbury West in the place of Philip Goodman of Wiveliscombe, who has served for a whole year ; and order that Sweeteinge take his oath of office before some justice within 6 days, or else forfeit 10*l*.

16. Note that orders 30 and 31 of Bridgewater Sessions last should have been entered of this Sessions.

17. Order,—on a dispute between the parishes of Isle Abbotts and Aishill touching the settlement of Robert White and Mary, his wife,—that Robert and Mary shall remain at Aishill, and that both parishes shall at their equal costs send to Colchester to enquire whether Robert has another wife living, and if it appears that he has not, then Isle Abbotts shall bear Aishill's costs in making the enquiry and maintaining Mary meanwhile.

18. Award by John Turbervill, William Clarke, Robert Hawley, Thomas Warr and Henry Bull touching the dispute as to rates at West Munckton which was referred to them at the last Sessions [*p*. 206], as follows :—

(*a*) The rate for new building the house on Knowle Hill is void and contrary to law.

(*b*) The overseers' account is imperfect, being overcast 4*l*. and more, besides the omission of money received.

(*c*) 6 rates are to be collected by last year's overseers in addition to the 18 rates already collected, and are to be employed for the relief of the poor and the repair of houses already erected for the poor.

(d) The nomination of poor people to be placed in the hospital of West Munckton called the Spittle has always belonged to the ancestors of Sir Frances Warr, Bart., ever since they were lords of the manor there. If any persons outside the said parish be placed in the hospital, the parish from which they come is to pay as much more money for their maintenance as shall be needful, over and above the ordinary allowance.

(e) The church house formerly belonging to the parish, which was employed for the dwelling of the poor and other necessary uses for the lord of the manor and the inhabitants of the parish, was illegally pulled down by William Doble, Esq., and shall be rebuilt and used as formerly.

(f) Another meeting to be held to take the corrected accounts of the overseers and churchwardens of the parish.

19. Order touching the maintenance of a base child of Deborah Wilkins of Beckington; the reputed father being Henry Wiltshire of Bath.

WELLS SESSION. 9 January, 28 Charles II. [1677.]

1. Order that the Court be adjourned to Nether Hamme on Friday, 2 February next, at 9 o'clock in the morning, in order that certain infirm persons living there or thereabouts may be able to take the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and subscribe the declaration against Transubstantiation.

2. Confirmation of an order by Sir William Wyndham, Knt. and Bart., and William Lacy, Esq., justices, for the removal of Jane Joyce from Wootton Courtney to Dulverton; and order accordingly.

3. Order,—on information that Mary Lewes, the mother of a base child of which George Reeves, deceased, is the reputed father, is a very loose, idle and disorderly person,—that the

said child shall be delivered into the custody of Matthew Reeves, son and executor of the said George, on his giving security to the parish of Blagdon against the child's becoming chargeable, and that, after such security has been given, the bond of 200*l.* which the said George gave to the parish as security be delivered to Matthew to be cancelled.

4. Order for the absolute settlement of Robert White, Mary, his wife, and their child, at Isle Abbotts ; as it appears that Robert, who has gone away leaving his wife chargeable at Aishill, was formerly settled at Isle Abbotts, and that no one has been sent to Colchester in pursuance of the order made at last Sessions [*p.* 214] because of the failure of the parish of Isle Abbotts in the matter.

5. Confirmation of an order by John Turbervill and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Henry Credge with his wife and family from Ash Priors to Milverton, and order accordingly ; in pursuance of a certificate whereby the minister, churchwardens and overseers of Milverton declared Credge to be their parishioner.

6. Discharge on appeal of an order by Ralph Stawell and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Thomas Robins from Somerton to Muchelney ; and order that Robins be returned to Somerton and settled there.

7. Confirmation of an order by Thomas Wyndham and Robert Hunt, Esquires, justices, for the removal of William Parfitt, the elder, from Brewton to St Cuthbert's, Wells ; and order accordingly.

8. Reference to next General Sessions, for final determination, of an appeal against an order by Sir John Malett, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, for the removal of Richard Luffman from North Cadbury to Maperton ; the parish of Maperton alleging that Luffman was long since settled as an

apprentice with one Perrey of Cadbury, and the parish of Cadbury alleging that the indenture of apprenticeship (if any) was antedated and void. Luffman is to remain in Maperton meanwhile, and if the parishioners of Cadbury cannot prove the indenture to be void, they shall pay the taxed costs of the parishioners of Maperton for their attendance at next Sessions.

9. Order to the constables of the hundred of Milverton to inflict the statutory punishment on Barsheba Younge of Langford Budville, singlewoman, the mother of a bastard male child which is likely to be chargeable to the said parish.

10. Order that Hugh Chaffin of Brewton and John Saunders late of Tiverton, co. Devon,—who have been fined 100 marks each for threatening, assaulting and evil entreating Sir William Portman, K.B. and Bart., and who have prayed for a mitigation of their fine and are earnestly desirous of acknowledging their offence by standing in the pillory,—shall be placed in the pillory in Wells forthwith, and remain there two hours with a paper signifying their offence affixed on their heads or some public part of the pillory, and that next Saturday they shall likewise be placed in the pillory in Taunton in the chief time of market there.

11. Report by Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Francis Poulett and Richard Crosse, justices, that they could not settle the dispute as to Thomas Downton's wife which was referred to them at Bath Sessions last [*p.* 210], because Downton, although duly summoned, failed to appear before them. As to the costs of the parishioners of St John's, Glaston, they order Downton to pay the said parishioners 27*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

12. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 10*l.* to Mr. Edward Davies and Mr. Joseph Newberry as a gratuity for their singular and very advantageous good service in discovering, apprehending and prosecuting several highwaymen, cutpurses and burglars, wherein they have

expended much time and charges, and exposed their lives to very great hazard.

13. The like order to the treasurer for the Western Division.

14. Confirmation of an order by Francis Vaughan and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of George Wall from Badgsworth to St John's, Glaston; and order accordingly.

15. Declaration that all persons who discover or prosecute offenders against Stats. 23 Elizabeth (dyeing of cloths), 3 and 4 Edward VI. and 21 James I. (pressing of cloths), and 39 and 43 Elizabeth (stretching of cloths), shall receive all just encouragement and countenance therein according to the tenors of the said statutes.

The sheriff is to cause the above declaration to be published in the great towns of the county, especially Somerton, Taunton, Bridgewater, Wellington, Wiveliscombe, Shepton Mallett, Wells, Glastonbury, Froome, Crossecombe, Battcombe, Mells, Bruton and Winecaunton, at the next great fairs, where fairs are held, and elsewhere on some remarkable festival day.

16. The like declaration touching Stat. 5 and 6 Edward VI. (buying and selling of live cattle), in order that Stat. 2 and 3 Philip and Mary (breeding of cattle) may be the better put in execution.

The sheriff or his under-sheriff is to issue copies of this declaration to the constables or chief officers of towns and places where fairs are held, (especially Somerton, Wiveliscombe, Wellington, Bridgewater, Taunton, Dunstar, Backbeire, Crewkerne, Yeovill, Bruton, Stafford Dale and Winecaunton), who are to publish the same at fair time. The nearest justices are desired to bind over any persons who fail to do so.

17. Order by Thomas Warr and Henry Walrond, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Bridget

Ballett of Whitestanton ; the reputed father being Thomas Parris, junior, of the same parish. Dated 27 December, 1676.

18. Order by John Turbervill and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Barsheba Younge, singlewoman ; the reputed father being Walter Clattworthy of Langford Budvill, serge-maker. Dated 17 November, 1676.

19. Order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Joan Bowden of Northover, singlewoman ; the reputed father being William Cole of Northover. Dated 10 January, 1676-7.

20. Order by Robert Hunt and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Justian Cooke of Cumpton Dindon, singlewoman ; the reputed father being James Combe of the same parish. Dated 11 January, 1676-7.

21. Order touching the maintenance of a base child of ——— of Burneham ; the reputed father being Thomas Goold.

22. Order touching the maintenance of a base child of Mary Chaple, born at Milverton ; the reputed father being Michael Washer, junior, of Oake.

23. Reference to Thomas Wyndham, Esq., justice, of a dispute between John Wise, Abraham Wise and William Treherne touching the order made at Bridgewater Sessions last discharging Abraham from his apprenticeship with Treherne [*p.* 209] ; the Court being informed that Treherne is a contentious person and has arrested several persons for receiving Abraham into their service, notwithstanding the above order. Treherne is to be bound over to the next Sessions if he will not obey the said justice's award.

ILCHESTER SESSION. 24 April, 29 Charles II. [1677.]

1. Appointment of Edward Drewston of West Buckland, gentleman, as treasurer for the maimed soldiers, in place of Thomas Moore of Spargrove. Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Thomas Warr and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, are desired to take the late treasurer's account.

2. Appointment in like terms of James Tucker of Charleton in Downton parish, gentleman, as treasurer of the hospitals for the Eastern Division, in place of Robert Mellior of Whethill, gentleman.

3. Appointment in like terms of Nathaniel Bernard of Fivehead, gentleman, as treasurer of the hospitals for the Western Division, in place of George Upon of Fitzhead, gentleman.

4. Order that no present or future pensioner be paid his pension or any part of it unless oath be made in Court or before some justice that he is living, and that no new pensioners be admitted by the Court until the number of pensioners be reduced to the old proportion.

5. Order that no person who has served as treasurer or deputy treasurer for the maimed soldiers or of the hospitals of either division be chosen or allowed to execute the same office for a second time until 3 years after his first service, except with the special approval of the Court.

6. Order that for the future the Clerk of the Peace forbear to estreat any fines, issues or amercements for non-repair of highways otherwise than to two justices, to the end that they may cause the same to be levied and employed according to Stat. 18 Charles II. c. 6.

7. Order that Robert Creedy, John Rutter and Edward Poole do deliver to Edward Bye of West Buckland 1 feather bed, 1 feather bolster, 2 dust bolsters, 1 great Bible, 1 table board, 1 chest, 1 pottage pot, 1 pair of pothooks and 1 crook which they are alleged to have taken from him without legal authority. If they fail to do so, the nearest justice is desired to bind them over to the next General Sessions.

8. Disallowance of an order by Sir Halswell Tynt, Bart., and Robert Hawley and William Clarke, Esquires, justices, dated 26 February last, for the removal of Thomas Whitehead and Frances, his wife, from Wembdon to Stawell ; as it appears that Whitehead went to Wembdon about 3 weeks before Michaelmas last, was disturbed there but not removed until after February last, lived there a good part of the said term as a covenant servant with a substantial householder, and was then single.

9. On information that an ancient common bridge in Weeke Champflower near Brewton on the highroad from Weymouth to Bristol is in great decay ; the Court desires Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Maurice, Viscount Fitzhardinge, and Robert Hunt, Thomas Wyndham, George Horner, Richard Crosse, Henry Bull, Esquires, and Thomas Holt, D.D., justices, to view the bridge before next Sessions, enquire who ought to repair it, and, if it be a county bridge, ascertain the cost of repairing it.

10. Order for the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Susanna Reede born at Stoake Trister ; the reputed father being Millard Springuish, *alias* Pringuish, *alias* Springlidge, of Wells.

11. Order for the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Catherine Stone born at Wellington ; the reputed father being John Campe of Wellington.

12. Discharge on appeal of an order by John Harrington and Joseph Langton, Esquires, justices, for the removal of Thomas Pall from Phillips Norton to Charlinch, and order that he be removed back to Phillips Norton, where he was settled above 40 days without disturbance.

13. Discharge on appeal of an order by Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Edward Phelipps, Esq., justices, for the removal of Stephen Mudford from East Chinnock to West Coker, and order that he be removed back to East Chinnock, where he was settled as a covenant servant above 40 days.

14. Order for the absolute settlement of Richard Luffman at Maperton, the parishioners thereof having failed to appear or produce the alleged certificate of his apprenticeship with one Perrey of North Cadbury. [See p. 216.]

15. Reference to John Turbervill, Thomas Warr and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, of a complaint by the parishioners of Bagborowe that they now pay above 12*d.* in the pound at a pound rate for the relief of their own poor and the poor of the parish of Taunton St James. If the justices find the said complaint to be true, they are desired to grant such relief as they shall think fit; otherwise the parishioners of Bagborowe are to pay for the relief of the poor of Taunton St James as much money as they have usually paid since his Majesty's happy restoration. All the other neighbouring parishes heretofore contributory to the poor of Taunton St James are also referred to the said justices, who are desired to consider their contributions and make such order as they shall think fit.

16. Order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division to pay 10*l.* to Henry Dollin and John Chaffy, constables of the hundred of Martock, towards the repair of Load Bridge in the parishes of Longe Sutton and Martock, and Gawbridge Bowe in the parishes of Martock and Kingsbury, which are county bridges and very ruinous.

17. The like order to the treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division.

18. On complaint by the inhabitants of Baltonsborough that several grounds called Mounckton Meades in their parish have usually been rated for poor rate in the parish of St John's, Glaston, as well as in their own parish, to their great injury ; the Court desires Sir Edward Phelipps, Knt., and Robert Hunt, Thomas Warr and Henry Bull, Esquires, justices, to convene the parties concerned at the sign of the Red Lion in Somerton by 10 o'clock in the forenoon on Wednesday, 9 May next, and settle the matter in dispute if they can. If not, they are to report to the next General Sessions.

19. Reference by consent to Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Francis Poulett, John Buckland, Francis Vaughan, John Prowse, Richard Crosse, Esquires, and John Bayly, LL.B., justices, of a dispute between the parishes of Chedder and Rodney Stoake touching a cottage which is claimed by both parishes. The said justices are to settle the dispute if they can, or else report to the next General Sessions. The parishioners of Chedder are to pay 20s. to those of Rodney Stoake for attendance at this Sessions, as they have failed to produce evidence in their behalf. If the justices fail to settle the dispute, a *venire facias* for trial of the matter by jury shall be awarded at the next General Sessions.

20. On a petition from the churchwardens and overseers of Taunton St James setting forth that, owing to the large number of poor persons in their parish and the small area covered by it, and by reason of the lowness of trade, the inhabitants and landholders are exceedingly burdened, the poor rate amounting to more than 350*l.* per annum, and that by order of the justices some taxations have been made on persons or estates in other parishes in the hundred of Taunton Deane towards the relief of their poor, but that these have lately been much withheld ; the Court desires Thomas Warr and Edward Court, Esquires, justices, to take such order in the matter as

they shall think fit, either by imposing a tax on the lands formerly charged to the said poor, or by adding taxations on adjacent parishes, and orders that no person shall be received in the said parish of Taunton St James without a discharge from the parish from which they come, and that if the inhabitants of the parish receive as servants or apprentices any children who are likely to become chargeable without giving notice to the overseers, the said servants and apprentices shall be removed by any neighbouring justice on complaint being made to him by the churchwardens and overseers, and that any person refusing to obey the order of the said justice shall be bound over to the next General Sessions. The neighbouring justices are also desired to suppress unnecessary alehouses in the said parish, as it is the keepers of those houses who cause the impoverishment of several of the inhabitants.

21. Order by Sir Halswell Tynt, Bart., and Henry Bull, Esq., justices, touching the maintenance of a bastard daughter of Joan Leach of Bromfeild, singlewoman; the reputed father being Thomas Francis of Northpetherton. Dated 13 April, 1677.

22. Order by the same touching the maintenance of a bastard son of Mary Bult of Bromfeild, singlewoman; the reputed father being Abraham Morse of Bromfeild. Dated 18 November, 1676.

23. Rates of wages :—

As above [*p.* 202], except that items 7 and 8 are omitted, and the following added :—

Prices for spinning, 16 ounces the pound :

For pinions, 3*d.*

Our own country wool, 4*d.*

Spanish wool, 10*d.*

Wolsted wool, 10*d.*

The grand inquest present all clothiers and serge makers who do put work to any spinster by the bundle or any other term than the just pound of 16 ounces.

24. Account of Robert Melior of Wheatehill, gentleman, treasurer for the hospitals of the Eastern Division, for 1676.

Receipts. 147*l.* 9*s.* 10½*d.*

Payments. 135*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

25. Account of William Hinton, deputy treasurer to George [*recte* Thomas] Moore of Spargrove, Esq., treasurer for the maimed soldiers, for 1676.

Receipts. 638*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

Payments. 603*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*

INDEX OF PLACES.

A.

Abdick, Hundred of, 17; and Bulstone, Hundred of, 204.
 Alfoxton [in Holford], 43, 66.
 Aller, 28, 73, 136.
 Ash Priors, 46, 121, 188, 216.
 Ashbrittle, 17, 22, 54.
 Ashcot, 26, 65, 71, 72, 78, 79, 167, 212.
 Ashill, 48, 65, 206, 214, 216.
 Asholt, 151.
 Ashton, Long, 192.
 Audry. *See* Othery.
 Axbridge, 84, 104, 122, 133, 135, 158 *bis*, 162.

B.

Babcary, 56, 76, 77, 213.
 Babington, 206, 212.
 Backwell, 201.
 Badgworth, 88, 96, 218.
 Bagborough (Backbeire), 218, 222; West, 21, 50, 69 *bis*, 71, 76.
 Baltonsborough, 55, 152, 182, 186, 223.
 Banmill *or* Barr Mill Bridge, in Rodden, 126, 135, 196.
 Banwell, 47, 48, 53, 97.
 Barge *or* Board Bridge, in Drayton, 31.
 Barr Mill *or* Banmill Bridge, in Rodden, 126, 135, 196.
 Barrow, 172; South, 41.
 Barton St. David, 36, 51, 56.

Barwick, 158.
 Batcombe, 1, 76, 81, 93, 129, 218.
 Bath, 55, 60, 63, 73, 92, 215; Sessions at, 92, 109, 125, 142, 165, 186, 211.
 Bath Forum, Hundred of, 79, 102, 113.
 Bathampton, 174, 189.
 Bathealton, 167.
 Batheaston, 78, 79, 105, 194; Bridge, 3, 159, 160.
 Bathford, 105, 194; Bridge, 3, 160.
 Bawdrip, 121, 140.
 Bayford, in Stoke Trister, 49, 68.
 Beakely, co. Wilts, 151.
 Beckington, 4, 138, 170, 215.
 Bedminster, 10, 24 *bis*, 32, 60, 93, 120, 152, 155, 169, 192; Bridge, 24, 32, 39.
 Bempstone, Hundred of, 24, 74, 95, 153.
 Berkley, 7.
 Berrow, 102, 128.
 Bickenhall, 48, 138.
 Bicknoller, 37, 125.
 Bishop's Hull, 27, 116, 157, 164.
 Blackford, 23, 93.
 Blagdon, 13, 62, 118, 172, 216.
 Board *or* Barge Bridge, in Drayton, 23, 31.
 Bossington [in Selworthy], 17.
 Bradford, 54, 71, 91, 93, 102, 103.
 Bradford, co. Wilts, 125.
 Bradley, North, 189; West, 62, 152.
 Bratton [in Minehead], 8.
 Brent, Hundred of, 24; East, 2, 123, 213; South, 22; cum Wrington, Hundred of, 89, 102, 113.
 Brewham, 9; North, 127; South, 174, 181, 213.

- Bridgewater, 5, 9, 15, 26, 39, 89, 90, 95, 133, 140, 141, 171, 191, 197, 218; "Angel" in, 200; borough court of, 202; Sessions at, 19, 37, 49, 71, 86, 104, 120, 160, 177, 204; cum Haygrove, 18, 151.
 Bridghampton [in Yeovilton], 99.
 Bright Bow Bridge, in Bedminster, 24.
 Brimpton, 155; King's, 149.
 Brislington, 1, 65, 144, 148, 166.
 Bristol, 10, 24, 63, 92, 95, 152, 221; St. Thomas's parish in, 143.
 Broadway, 12, 17.
 Broadwindsor. *See* Windsor, Broad.
 Brompton Ralph, 109, 113, 180.
 Broomfield, 19, 20, 23, 33, 34, 50, 82, 87, 137, 224 *bis*.
 Brushford, 20, 34, 57, 66 *bis*, 72, 108.
 Bruton, 25, 54, 63, 121, 144, 175, 213, 216, 217, 218, 221; Hundred of, 47, 60, 70.
 Buckland, 115, 189; Denham, 5, 6, 106, 109, 188; St. Mary, 6, 97, 138, 152; West, 15, 21, 38, 126, 163, 220, 221.
 Bullsmore Wall, 183.
 Burnett, 129.
 Burnham, 88, 95, 96, 219; Moor, 22.
 Burrington, 58.
 Burroughbridge, bridge of, 71.
 Burton, in Gillingham, co. Dorset, 49.
 Butleigh, 41, 160, 163, 200.
- C.
- Cadbury, North, 59, 76, 174, 216, 217, 222; South, 7, 174.
 Camel, Queen, 22, 68, 212.
 Cameley, 115.
 Camerton, 21, 55, 63, 71, 129, 157.
 Cannington, 47, 50, 58, 106, 151, 153, 154, 197, 210; Hundred of, 42.
 Carhampton, 88, 210; Hundred of, 209.
 Cary Fitzpaine [in Charlton Mackrell], 98.
 Castle Cary, 132, 135, 158.
 Catheringe. *See* St. Catherine.
 Catsash, Hundred of, 114.
 Catterne. *See* St. Catherine.
 Chaffcombe, 84, 91.
 Chard, 10, 18, 28, 29, 155, 174, 211.
 Chardland, 10, 18, 28, 44, 138, 150, 153, 156, 166.
 Chardstoke, co. Dorset, 122.
 Charlinch, 44, 47, 50, 197, 222.
 Charlton Adam, 128, 171; Horethorne, 110; Mackrell, 212; Musgrove, 88; Queen, 78.
 Charlton, in Downton, co. Wilts, 220.
 Cheddar, 26, 84, 146, 223.
 Cheddon, 3, 5; Fitzpaine, 180.
 Chedzoy, 6, 15, 71, 72.
 Chelton, 39, 145.
 Cheriton, South, 133.
 Chew Magna, 166, 167, 170, 172.
 Chewstoke, 58.
 Chewton, 25, 49, 51, 115; Keynsham, 144; Mendip, 49.
 Chilthorne Domer, 79, 87.
 Chilton Canteloe (Shilton Cambello), 182, 186.
 Chinnock, East, 26, 174, 222; West, 148.
 Chipstable, 70, 170, 183, 189.
 Christon (Curston), 89, 94.
 Churchill, 62, 107.
 Clapton, 171.
 Clatworthy, 119, 169.
 Clavelshay *or* Classey *or* Clawsey [in North Petherton], 61, 86.
 Claverton, 98.
 Claxton Bridge, 160.
 Cleeve, Old, 15, 122, 130, 163, 170.
 Clevedon, 98, 165, 197.
 Cloford, 40, 49, 175, 198.
 Clutton, 2, 60, 155, 198, 212.
 Coker, Hundred of, 178; East, 169; West, 69, 222.
 Colchester, co. Essex, 214, 216.
 Combe Hay, 60, 92, 211; St. Nicholas, 122, 158, 175, 179.
 Compton Bishop, 158 *bis*, 162; Dando, 143, 169; Dundon, 87, 219; Martin, 58, 167, 172; Pauncefoot, 51, 52, 84, 88, 127, 132, 142, 158.

Congresbury (Comesbury), 4, 27, 53,
89, 94, 107, 118.
Copland, 2, 8.
Corfe, 70, 179.
Corscombe, co. Dorset, 63.
Corston, 92, 143.
Corton Denham, 175, 208.
Cossington, 14.
Cothelstone, 194.
Cranmore, 174, 198; West, 64, 198.
Creech St. Michael, 20 *bis*, 178, 179,
180, 185, 189 *bis*.
Crewkerne, 65, 71, 75, 81, 86, 138,
150, 155, 157, 218; Hundred of, 45,
94, 178.
Croscombe, 3, 24, 218.
Crowcombe, 165, 173, 179, 186, 197,
198.
Cudworth, 144.
Culbone, 51.
Curland, 117.
Curry Mallet, 16, 63, 173; North, 42,
43, 68, 81, 105, 118 *bis*, 130, 136,
180 *bis*, 189, 203; —, Hundred of,
94; Rivell, 27, 75, 100, 103, 123,
136, 142 *bis*, 149, 152, 154, 163, 165,
166, 168, 171, 172, 190, 210.

D.

Dilton, co. Wilts, 57, 86.
Dinnington, 44, 80.
Ditcheat, 56, 67 *bis*, 68, 73, 76, 147,
156.
Donyatt, 11, 107.
Dorchester, 95.
Doulting, 4, 86, 94, 170.
Dowlish, 7; Wake, 207, 214.
Drayton, 23, 117, 136, 165, 168;
Westover, 30, 31.
Driddy. *See* Priddy.
Dulcote, 182.
Dulverton, 14, 67, 88, 156, 215.
Dunkerton (Tuckerton), 78, 92, 106,
109, 129.
Dunster, 20, 52, 95, 202, 209, 218.
Durleigh, 85, 86.
Durrington, co. Wilts, 111.
Durstun, 17, 154.

E.

Easton, in East Pennard, 26.
Edington, 145.
Elworthy, 109, 113.
Emborough, 62.
Evercreech, 40, 148, 151.
Exe Bridge, in Brushford, 66 *bis*,
74, 89, 101, 122, 124, 160.
Exton, 178.

F.

Farmborough, 212.
Farrington Gurney, 212.
Fayland [in Wraxall], 172.
Felton, in Winford, 46.
Fiddington, 193.
Fisherton Anger, co. Wilts, 113, 144.
Fitzhead, 15, 112, 121, 153, 193, 199,
201, 220.
Fivehead, 52, 131, 165, 168, 170, 220.
Fleet Bridge, in Taunton, 21, 34.
Forton, in Chard, 19.
Freshford, 81.
Frome, 4, 6, 11, 12, 29, 31, 63, 218;
Bridge, 160; Hundred of, 102,
114; Selwood, 7, 22, 100, 119, 173,
188, 194, 199, 204, 209.

G.

Gawbridge Bowe, in Martock and
Kingsbury, 206, 222.
Gillingham, co. Dorset, 49.
Glastonbury, 22, 28, 55, 59, 64, 78,
79, 107, 149, 155, 157, 182, 185,
191, 208, 210, 211, 218; St. Bene-
dict's in, 3, 33, 87, 98; St. John's
in, 3, 28, 33, 41, 98, 121, 140, 185,
188, 192, 198, 217, 218, 223.
Glastonbury Twelve Hides, Hundred
of, 47, 102, 114, 151.
Goathurst, 169.
Goose Bradon, in Curry Rivell, 154,
163, 166.
Greinton, 23, 71, 72, 97.

H.

Hadspen (Hatspen), in Pitcombe, 127.
 Halse, 168, 181, 188, 193, 201, 203.
 Ham, High, 136, 152, 194; Nether, 215.
 Hanham, co. Gloucester, 93.
 Hardington, 9.
 Harptree, East, 82.
 Hartcliffe and Bedminster, Hundred of, 102, 114, 192.
 Hatch Beauchamp, 16, 138, 149; West, 136, 138, 143, 149, 161.
 Hatspen. *See* Hadspen.
 Hawly Moor, co. Gloucester, 74.
 Helcombe. *See* Holcombe.
 Hemington, 92, 97.
 Hemyock, co. Devon, 149.
 Henstridge, 80, 98.
 Hereford, 63.
 Hill Farrance, 71, 91, 93, 106.
 Hinton (Henton), 74, 129, 157; Charterhouse, 35, 60, 75, 125; St. George, 60, 122, 144, 145.
 Holborn, co. Middlesex, St. Giles' in, 122.
 Holcombe (Helcombe), 25, 27, 188.
 Holford, 103.
 Holloway [in Taunton], 190.
 Holt, 207.
 Horethorne, Hundred of, 27, 47, 102, 114, 131.
 Horrington, East, 186; West, 22, 182.
 Horsey [in Bridgewater], 6, 15.
 Horsington, 2 *bis*, 133, 185.
 Horton, in Ilminster, 139.
 Houndsborough, Hundred of, 94, 178.
 Huish, 136, 193.
 Huntspill, 9, 36, 102, 123, 130 *bis*, 145; and Puriton, Hundred of, 102, 114.
 Hunwood [in Street], 10.
 Hutton, 97.

I.

Ilchester, 42 *bis*, 45, 75, 77, 83 *bis*, 125, 140, 141, 149, 171, 195; Bridge, 75, 92, 103; Gaol, 1, 6, 16,

32, 83, 90, 114; House of Correction, 1, 8, 54, 114; Sessions at, 6, 25, 42, 61, 79, 99, 116, 132, 141, 154, 173, 196, 197, 220.
 Ilminster, 17, 107, 139, 146, 204.
 Ilton, 111.
 Ireland, 68, 197.
 Isle Abbots, 152, 206, 214, 216.
 Itton, co. Monmouth, 105.
 Ivy Bridge, 92 *bis*.

K.

Kenn, 171.
 Kewstoke, 122.
 Keynsham, 62, 77, 79, 112, 148, 166, 189, 193; Bridge, 165; Hundred of, 11, 144.
 Kilmersdon, 90, 100; Hundred of, 27, 102, 114.
 Kilve, 165, 170.
 Kingsbury, 7, 121; East, 201; —, Hundred of, 94, 178; West, Hundred of, 21, 38, 52, 109, 121, 126, 166, 190, 214.
 Kingsdon, 159.
 Kingsmore, 197.
 Kingston, 165, 180, 193, 194; by Taunton, 20; Seymour, 197.
 Kingstone, 52, 120.
 Knapp Bridge, in North Curry, 105.
 Knowle Hill, in West Monkton, 214.
 Knowle St. Giles, 84, 91, 207, 214.

L.

Lambridge, in Swainswick, 159.
 Langford (Langton) Budville, 17, 22, 153, 217, 219.
 Langport, 40, 44, 52, 56 *bis*, 57, 69, 78, 90, 128, 168; Eastover, 136, 190.
 Layton. *See* Leighton.
 Leigh, 165.
 Leighton (Layton), in Cloford, 198, 206.
 Limington, 14, 30, 63.
 Littleton, High, 89, 208.

Load Bridge, in Martock and Long Sutton, 192, 206, 222.
 Load, Long, in Martock, 16, 23.
 Locking, 97.
 London, 95, 96; St. Martin's in the Fields in, 140; St. Martin's the Less in, 116.
 Lopen, 201.
 Lovington, 76, 81, 108.
 Loxton, 89, 94.
 Lufton, 155.
 Luxborough, 21.
 Lydeard, Bishop's, 38, 44, 47, 50, 69, 94, 117, 121, 123, 148, 176, 181, 210, 214; St. Lawrence, 130, 148, 168, 177, 181, 182, 188.
 Lydford, East, 62, 104, 108; West, 140, 142, 149, 174, 185.
 Lyncombe, 93.
 Lyng, 64, 141, 142, 154, 183, 203.

M.

Maperton, 216, 217, 222.
 Mark, East, 23.
 Marksbury, 98, 154.
 Marnhill, co. Dorset, 2.
 Marston, 36, 39, 68, 179; Bigot, 170, 175; Magna, 22.
 Martock, 7, 15, 23, 43, 161, 192; Hundred of, 94, 222.
 Meare (Mare), 20, 33, 160, 161, 162, 163, 170, 175, 208.
 Mells, 4, 151, 159, 162, 218.
 Mere, co. Wilts, 41.
 Merriott, 45, 139, 157 *bis*.
 Middlezoy, 43, 71, 72 *bis*.
 Milborne Port, 9, 27, 30, 27, 208.
 Milton Bridge, 54.
 Milton Clevedon, 107, 109.
 Milverton, 16, 34, 37, 47, 64, 177, 179, 216, 219; Hundred of, 177, 217.
 Minehead, 35, 36, 162, 197, 202.
 Misterton, 44, 45.
 Molton, South, co. Devon, 209.
 Monkton Combe, 47, 60; West, 74, 104, 124, 130, 169, 178, 206, 214, 215.
 Montacute (Montague), 118.

Moorlinch, 60, 71, 72, 108.
 Morebath, co. Devon, 66, 67, 108.
 Muchelney, 16, 23, 31, 193, 216.

N.

Nailsea, 4, 80, 198.
 Nettlecombe, 82, 87, 117, 118.
 Newton St. Loe, 115.
 Northover, 14, 30, 195, 204, 219.
 Northwick [in Chew Magna], 160.
 Nortlett Bridge, below Glastonbury, 161.
 Norton Ferris, Hundred of, 47, 96, 102, 114, 132; Fitzwarren, 27, 183; Midsomer, 55, 63, 71, 189, 192; St. Philip, 222; under Hamdon, 83, 89, 139, 142, 146.
 Nunney, 64, 113.

O.

Oake, 219.
 Odcombe, 132, 161, 179, 199.
 Okeford, co. Dorset, 48.
 Okey. *See* Wookey.
 Oldford [in Frome], 7.
 Orchard Portman, 195.
 Orchardleigh, 92, 97, 103.
 Osmington, co. Dorset, 95.
 Othery (Audry), 65, 71, 72, 97.
 Otterford, 42, 138.

P.

Paulton, 134, 208, 209.
 Pawlett (Powlett), 84, 139, 200.
 Pennard, 67 *bis*, 68, 73, 76; East, 26, 39 *bis*, 43, 47, 55, 60, 78, 147 *bis*, 163; West, 33, 52, 79, 87.
 Pensford St. Thomas, bridge of, in Publow, 3 *bis*, 27, 160.
 Peridge, in Pilton, 142.
 Petherton, North, 1, 9, 12, 18 *bis*, 19, 20, 52, 53, 71, 72, 82, 85, 86, 125, 160, 162, 164, 173, 182, 199, 224; —, Hundred of, 5, 18, 39, 47, 74, 89, 125, 151, 171; South, 40, 110; —, Hundred of, 136, 178.

Piddle, co. Dorset, 95.
 Piddletrenthide, co. Dorset, 110 *bis*.
 Pill, 148.
 Pilton, 3, 22, 28, 33, 96, 107, 110,
 115, 145.
 Pitcombe, 79.
 Pitminster, 69.
 Pitney, Hundred of, 74, 89, 102, 114.
 Porlock, 197.
 Portbury, 78 *bis*, 128, 140, 197;
 Hundred of, 89.
 Portishead, 55, 193.
 Poundisford [in Pitminster], 84.
 Preston Bowyer, in Milverton, 37.
 Priddy (Driddy), 150, 151, 156, 182.
 Priestleigh [in Doulting], 93, 94, 95.
 Priston, 11, 117, 121.
 Publow, 119; Bridge, 3, 32.
 Puckington, 14.
 Puriton, 36.

Q.

Quantoxhead, East, 35, 163; West,
 35.

R.

Raddon. *See* Rodden.
 Radford or Rodford Bridge, 55, 63,
 71.
 Radstock, 213.
 Redcraft, 165.
 Redlynch, 181, 182.
 Rimpton, 132, 139.
 Road, 112, 145, 196.
 Rodden (Raddon), 126, 135, 159, 173,
 196.
 Ruishton (Ryson, Ryston), 88, 105,
 137, 154.
 Runnington, 69, 71, 76, 99.

S.

St. Catherine (Catheringe, Catterne),
 104, 116.
 St. Decuman's, 88, 122, 162, 164, 188.
 St. George's, 197.

Saltford, 143.
 Sampford Peverell, co. Devon, 118.
 Sandford Orcas, 131.
 Sea, in Ilminster, 7, 14.
 Seavington, 127, 136; Abbots, 28,
 65.
 Sedgemore, 8.
 Shaftesbury, co. Dorset, 208.
 Shapwick, 8.
 Shepton Beauchamp, 65, 82; Mallet,
 16, 26, 43, 54, 57, 59, 60, 61, 70,
 81, 86, 96, 100, 107, 110, 112, 115,
 169, 196, 212, 218; —, House of
 Correction, 2, 4, 9, 16, 45, 52, 54,
 83, 93, 94, 128, 133, 137, 148, 157,
 171; Montague, 20, 70, 147, 159.
 Sherborne, co. Dorset, 99.
 Shilton Cambello. *See* Chilton
 Canteloe.
 Shrewsbury, 41.
 Skilgate, 159.
 Somerton, 8, 21, 52 *bis*, 99, 144, 159,
 216, 218; "Red Lion" in, 223;
 Hundred of, 102, 114.
 Spargrove, 158, 198, 220, 225.
 Sparkford, 212.
 Spaxton, 26, 40, 44, 87, 124, 164, 165,
 167, 195, 205.
 Speckington [in Yeovilton], 99.
 Stafford Dale. *See* Stavordale.
 Standerwick, 7, 170, 188.
 Stanmore Bridge, in Stoke St.
 Gregory, 136.
 Stanton Drew, 105, 119, 167.
 Staple Fitzpaine, 117.
 Staplegrove, 16.
 Stavordale (Stafford Dale), 218.
 Stawell, 221.
 Stawley, 146.
 Stert, 197.
 Stockland Bristol (Stoaklane), 200.
 Stocklinch, 40.
 Stoford, in Barwick, 169.
 Stogumber, 52, 126.
 Stogursey, 32, 40, 41, 42, 47, 51, 58,
 59, 87, 96, 100, 101, 151, 162.
 Stoke, 110; Lane, 25, 27; Rodney,
 223; St. Gregory, 12, 18, 37, 49,
 68, 101, 108, 136, 141, 142, 183,
 202, 203; Trister, 2, 16, 49, 221;
 under Hamdon, 1.

Stolford (Stwoford), in Stogursey,
101, 108.
Stone and Catsash, Hundred of, 102.
Stone Easton, 61, 95, 129.
Stoodley Bridge, 54.
Stowey, 167, 172; Nether, 14, 164,
181; Over, 42, 46, 52, 103, 208.
Stratton, 7, 21.
Street, 6, 10, 22, 28, 64.
Stringston, 14, 89, 95.
Stwoford. *See* Stolford.
Sutton, Long, 75, 81, 118, 192, 197,
198; Montis (Montague), 174.
Swainswick, 58 *bis*, 129, 130; Bridge,
3. *See also* Lambridge.
Swell, 112, 117.

T.

Taunton, 34, 43, 48, 68, 69, 70, 74,
75, 104, 117, 132, 134, 136, 177,
190, 199, 217, 218; Bridge, 21, 34;
Castle, 75, 94, 109, 111, 168; House
of Correction, 44, 74, 78, 83, 90, 96,
112, 114, 123, 126, 135, 153, 156,
157, 164, 174, 196, 204, 205, 209;
Sessions at, 14, 33, 46, 66; St.
James' parish, 3, 17, 44, 70, 73,
74, 114, 119, 160, 163, 183, 184,
190, 195, 203, 204, 207, 222, 223,
224; St. Mary Magdalen parish,
47, 48, 74, 75, 81, 86, 88, 110, 119,
124, 178, 179, 180, 184, 187, 189,
190, 191, 196, 201, 202 *bis*.
Taunton and Taunton Dean, Hundred
of, 4, 42, 120, 223.
Tellisford, 112.
Theale, in Wedmore, 73.
Thorn St. Margaret, 35, 70.
Thorncombe, co. Devon, *now* co.
Dorset, 156, 166.
Thornfalcon, 3, 119, 173, 174.
Thurlbear, 137.
Thurloxtton, 68, 133, 162.
Tickenham, 165.
Timsbury, 11, 55, 63, 71.
Tiverton, co. Devon, 217.
Tone, the river, 136.
Tone Bridge, in Taunton St. James,
114.

Tone and Hele Bridges, in Bradford,
53, 68, 85, 102, 113.
Toomer, in Henstridge, 132.
Treborough, 25, 130.
Trent, 131, 158.
Trowbridge, co. Wilts, 134.
Trull, 118, 122, 183 *bis*.
Tuckerton. *See* Dunkerton.

U.

Ubley, 101.
Uphill, 194, 197.
Upton, 99, 105, 169; Noble, 40.

W.

Walcot (Woolcot), 112.
Walton, 36, 39, 76.
Wambrook, co. Dorset, 211.
Wanstrow, 64.
Watchet, 164, 197.
Weare, 2.
Wedmore, 73, 123, 126, 162, 207.
Wellington, 21, 35, 52, 149, 166, 218,
221.
Wellow, 92; Hundred of, 74, 89, 92.
Wells, 22, 55, 57, 63 *bis*, 75, 82, 113,
124, 128, 141, 153, 159, 177, 192,
217, 218, 221; Assizes at, 182;
Sessions at, 1, 22, 39, 54, 74, 95,
112, 127, 146, 168, 190, 215;
"Hare and Hounds" in, 89; St.
Andrew's parish, 182; St. Cuth-
bert's parish, 22, 56, 107, 109, 124,
150, 156, 216; East, 79, 170.
Wells Forum, Hundred of, 60, 74, 89,
102, 114, 153.
Wembdon, 124, 153, 154, 221.
Westbury, co. Wilts, 138.
Westminster, 91, 138.
Weston Bampfylde, 132; super Mare
(West Weston), 27, 90, 94, 197;
Zoyland, 71, 72 *bis*, 100, 107, 120,
123, 205.
Westover Farm, in Drayton, 31.
Weymouth, co. Dorset, 221.
Whatley, 116, 121, 165.
Wheathill, 98, 199, 220, 225.

Whitchurch, 60, 79.
 Whitestaunton, 37, 219.
 Whitestone, Hundred of, 60, 70, 102, 114.
 Whitley, Hundred of, 98.
 Williton and Freemanors, Hundred of, 60, 70.
 Wilton, co. Wilts, 144.
 Wilton, in Taunton, 61, 117, 132.
 Wincanton, 19, 61, 68, 81, 85, 96, 131, 132, 133, 159, 205, 218.
 Windsor, Broad, co. Dorset, 69, 87; Little, co. Dorset, 210.
 Winford (Winseford), 46.
 Wingfield (Winckfeild), co. Wilts, 194.
 Winscombe, 41, 46, 49, 62.
 Winsford, 91.
 Winsham, 28, 44, 68.
 Winterstoke, Hundred of, 24, 62, 74, 89, 97, 102, 114, 122, 153.
 Witcombe by Bath, 93.
 Witham Friary, 93, 151, 162.
 Withiel Florey, 184, 190, 203.
 Withycombe, 161, 167.
 Wiveliscombe, 19, 47, 88, 109, 145, 190, 199, 201, 214, 218.

Wollavington, 5, 40, 84.
 Woodspring [in Kewstoke], 197.
 Wookey (Okey), 22.
 Woolcott. *See* Walcot.
 Woolley, 80, 81.
 Woolston, in North Cadbury, 76.
 Woolverton, 79, 109, 112, 189.
 Woolward Bridge, in Compton Dando and Publow, 3, 27, 32, 160.
 Wootton Courtney, 36, 215; North, 54.
 Worle, 47, 122.
 Worminster [in North Wootton], 54.
 Wrington (Wrenton), 143, 153, 154, 197; Hundred of, 74.
 Wyke (Weeke) Champflower, 221.

Y.

Yarlington, 20, 56, 84, 191.
 Yatton, 153.
 Yearnor [in Porlock], tithing of, 8.
 Yeovil, 42, 51, 56, 79, 87, 117, 121, 133, 174, 178, 200, 218.

INDEX OF PERSONS.

A.

Abbott (Abbot), Mary, 175 ; the widow, of Martock, 15.
 Acourt (Court), John, of Rodden, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 159, 173, 186. *See also* Court.
 Acrigge, John, 169.
 Addams, Matthew, of Dunster, 52 ; William, 75, 81 ; William (another), and Anne, his wife, 56.
 Aishman, Thomas, of Peridge, 142.
 Albemarle, Duke of, 65.
 Alford, Richard, 72 ; William, keeper of the House of Correction at Taunton, 74, 78, 83, 90, 96, 112, 114, 123, 126, 135, 153, 156, 164, 174, 196, 204, 205, 209, 212.
 Allchild, Thomas, and Alice, his wife, and Temperance, their daughter, 152, 162.
 Allen, Elizabeth, of Bawdrip, 121 ; John, 77 ; John, of Barton St. David, 51 ; John, of Chewstoke, 58.
 Allinge, Thomas, of Dulcote, 182.
 Alson, Hugh, of Keynsham, 189.
 Ambrose, William, 208 ; William, rector of Farmborough, 212.
 Andrewes *als.* Wilcockes, Frances, of Chewton, 25.
 Andrews (Andrewes), John, 123 ; John, of Corston, 92 ; Thomas, 42.
 Androse, John, of Corton Dinham, 208.
 Anton, Mary, of Milverton, 64.

Äplin (Aplyn), Edward, 161, 177, 208 ; John, of Ashill, 65.
 Arner, Barbara, 122.
 Atkins, John, of Bruton, 25 ; John, of Chard, 10.
 Audley *als.* Pratt, Edith, 161.
 Austen, Thomas, 138.
 Avery, Benjamin, of Frome Selwood, 31, 99, 100.
 Aymes, Arthur, 107.
 Ayres, William, of Osmington, deputy collector of Hearth-money, 95.

B.

Babb, David, of Stolford, 101, 108, 202, 203 ; Edward, 183 ; William, 193.
 Baber, James, 119 ; Jane, 119 ; John, 119 ; John, of Blagdon, 62, 122 ; John, of Minehead, 35.
 Bacon, John, of Stockland Bristol, 200 ; William, 200.
 Bagge, Robert, of East Brent, 213.
 Baily, John, of Paulton, 209.
 Baker, Dorothy, 44 ; James, 15 ; John, 120 ; John, of Burrington, 58 ; John, of Pawlett, 84 ; Richard, 77 ; Thomas, 64 ; —, of Cranmore, 174.
 Balch, Joan, 122 ; Thomas, 2, 8, 122.
 Bale, Edward, 190.
 Ball, Joan, of Halse, 201, 203 ; Philip, 135.
 Baller, William, 177.
 Ballett, Bridget, of Whitestaunton, 218, 219.

- Bampfeyld (Bampefeld), Edward, J.P., 109, 135, 138, 170; Warwick, J.P., 6, 25, 63, 64, 71, 92, 113, 116, 126, 128, 151, 162, 170, 175, 188, 189.
- Barbar, William, of Bishop's Hull, 157.
- Barber, James, of Cleavedon, 98; Philip, of Clutton, 60.
- Barnard, William, of Baltonsborough, 182, 186. *See also* Bernard.
- Barnes, Abraham, of Charlton Adam, 128, 171; Alice, 88.
- Barrell, William, of Keynsham, 193.
- Barter, George, vicar of Lyng, 64.
- Bartlett, Charles, of Somerton, 52; William, overseer, of Corton Dinham, 175; —, 161.
- Bassett (Basset), Sir William, J.P., 3, 63, 71, 113, 126.
- Bastable, Joan, 133; William, of Thurloxton, 133.
- Bater, Joan, 153; John, 153.
- Bath, John, of Wells, 82.
- Bathurst, Dr., Dean of Wells, J.P., 113.
- Batt, Israel, 187, 201; Richard, of East Chinnock, 26.
- Batten, Richard, 169.
- Bawditch, John, churchwarden of Cameley, 115.
- Bawler, Philip, churchwarden of Curry Mallet, 63; William, 140.
- Bayly, Catherine, 194; Frolick, 145; John, LL.D., J.P., 187, 192, 200, 210, 223.
- Baynard, Thomas, J.P. for Dorset, 110; Thomas, of Blagdon, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 7, 13.
- Beakes, William, of Portishead, 193.
- Beard, Hugh, 178, 179, 184, 189; Joan, 189.
- Beasley, John, of Holt, 207.
- Beaton, Edward, of Weston Bampfylde, 132, 139.
- Beavis, John, of Taunton St. James, 207.
- Bellamy, Susanna, 164.
- Benison, George, of Wiveliscombe, 201.
- Bennett (Bennet), Charles, 21; Thomas, sub-commissioner of Excise, 7; Thomas, of Wells, 63; William, sub-commissioner of Excise, 7, 31.
- Bere, Thomas, J.P. for Devon, 108.
- Berkeley, Edward, of Pill, 148; Sir Maurice, J.P., 19.
- Bernard (Barnard, Burnard), John, and Margaret, his wife, 138, 143, 149; Nathaniel, of Fivehead, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 220. *See also* Barnard.
- Berriman, Robert, of Bruton, 25.
- Bertie, Vere, Baron of the Exchequer, 195.
- Beskerville, Robert, 28.
- Bigg (Bigge), Ann, 115; Joseph, of Newton St. Loe, 115; Robert, 8.
- Bindon, William, of Burnham, 96.
- Bisgood, George, 72.
- Bishopp, John, 177.
- Bithesea, William, of Pilton, 22, 28.
- Blacker, George, of Clutton, 60.
- Blackwell, Thomas, of Stogumber, 126.
- Blagdon, Benedict, 9.
- Blake, John, of Over Stowey, 42.
- Blanchard, William, of St. Catherine, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 104, 116.
- Boarde, John, 98.
- Boby, Richard, overseer of Curry Mallet, 63.
- Boite, John, 35.
- Bonfeild, George, of Brislington, 166.
- Bonner, Henry, of Combe St. Nicholas, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 158, 173, 176.
- Boone, William and Prudence, his wife, 16.
- Boucher (Bouger), John, of Keynsham, 166, 177.

- Boughton, Nathaniel, minister of Ilchester, 171. *See also* Bowden.
- Bourne, Roger, J.P., 17, 26, 43, 68.
- Bowden, Joan, of Northover, 219; Nathaniel, minister of Stoke under Hamdon, 1. *See also* Boughton.
- Bowell (Buoy) Edward, of Wells, 157, 159.
- Bowerman, John, lord of Barton St. David manor, 36.
- Bowne, John, 72.
- Bragg, Francis, of Broomfield, 20; Joseph, 33.
- Bray, Thomas, of North Petherton, 182.
- Brayne, Mr., 1.
- Bremble, William, 80, 81.
- Brent, John, of Cosington, 14.
- Brewer, Malachi, of West Quantockshead, 35; William, of Trowbridge, 134.
- Brewford (Bruford), James, 68; John, of Bradford, 54, 85, 103.
- Briant, Elizabeth, 210; Israel, 191; Richard, of Kingsdon, 159.
- Brice, Edward, 149; Joan, 142.
- Bridges, Harry, J.P., 167; Sir Thomas, J.P., 11, 24, 58, 62, 65, 71, 98, 105, 112, 116, 119, 126, 134, 135, 151, 166, 167, 212.
- Bridle, Francis, of Shepton Mallet, 59.
- Brindsmeade, Richard, 120.
- Britten, John, 89; John, of Corston, 92.
- Brock (Brocke), Emma *or* Emmeline, of Chilton Canteloe, 182, 186.
- Brockman, Richard, of Portbury, 78.
- Brole, Hugh, 163.
- Brooke, Arthur, churchwarden of Brislington, 1; George, deputy sheriff, 32, 57, 77 *bis*, 104; Richard, of West Horrington, and Angel, his wife, 182; Thomas, 164, 212; William, of Queen Camel, 22; William, junior, of Thurlbear, 137.
- Brookes, George, of Glastonbury, 107, 108; Thomas, 75.
- Brounsey, William, and William, his son, 37.
- Browne, George, J.P. for Dorset, 110; George, of Whitestaunton, 37; John, of Ilchester, 42, 77; William, of Portbury, 128, 140.
- Browneinge, John, of Charlton Queen, 78.
- Bruncker, John, 116, 121.
- Bryan, John, of Taunton St. James, 119.
- Bryer, Catherine, of Orchard Portman, 195, 196.
- Buckerell, Humphrey, of Seavington Abbots, 65.
- Buckland, John, J.P., 3, 6, 14, 25, 26, 33, 41, 46, 56, 62, 63, 75, 77, 82, 115, 126, 134, 150, 156, 166, 172, 193, 207, 212, 223.
- Bull, Henry, J.P., 200 *bis*, 206, 212, 213, 214, 219, 220, 221, 223, 224; John, of North Cadbury, 174; William, J.P., 5, 6, 10, 19, 22, 33, 40, 43, 72, 84, 89, 95, 120, 121, 124, 125, 130, 132, 134, 139, 141, 142 *bis*, 145 *bis*, 152, 154, 160, 163, 195, 212.
- Bull *als.* Mebbriek, Thomas, of Bishop's Hull, 157.
- Bult, Mary, of Broomfield, 224.
- Bunington, John, of Weston Zoyland, 72.
- Buoy. *See* Bowell.
- Burborough, John, 165.
- Burgesse (Burgis), Michael, 150, 151, 156.
- Barland, John, of Stogursey, constable of Cannington Hundred, 42.
- Burnoll, Robert, constable of Cannington Hundred, 151.
- Burrell, Robert, of West Hatch, 138.
- Burridge, Thomas, of Shepton Beauchamp, 65.
- Bursey, Hester, 212.
- Burt, John, 177.
- Bush, William, of Keynsham, 148, 189.

Butcher, Henry, of Buckland Denham, 5, 6; James, of St. Decumans, 122.
 Butler, John, 72; Mr., 136.
 Butter, Robert, of Taunton St. James, 183.
 Buxton, —, 22.
 Bydgood, Henry, 110.
 Bye, Edward, of West Buckland, 221.

C.

Campe, John, of Wellington, 221.
 Canington (Cannington) John, of Broomfield, 19, 33; Robert, bailiff of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, 57, 93, 153.
 Canniford, William, and Elizabeth, his wife, 194.
 Caporne, Robert, 54.
 Card, Richard, of Fitzhead, 201.
 Carew (Carewe), Henry, J.P. for Devon, 108; John, of Camerton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 7, 21; John, of Crowcombe, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 173, 186, 197, 198.
 Carrent, James, of Toomer, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 132, 158.
 Carse, Nicholas, of Dulverton, 67.
 Carter, William, overseer of Ilminster, 107.
 Carven, Robert, of Taunton, 199.
 Cary, Edward, of Baltonsborough, 55; John, 71; John, J.P., 7 *bis*, 10, 19, 36, 51, 56 *bis*; John, of West Lydford, 185; Richard, 23; William, 72.
 Case, Nicholas, 101.
 Caswell, Joan, 180; Luke, of North Cadbury, 76.
 Catley, Thomas, 11.
 Cayford, Thomas, of Doultling, 170.
 Ceely, Adry, of North Curry, 41, 42; Edward, Commissioner of Sewers, 184; Maurice, Deputy Recorder of Bridgewater, 39.
 Chaffin, Hugh, of Bruton, 217.
 Chaffy, John, constable of Martock Hundred, 222.
 Challoner, Martha, 2; Robert, receiver of Hearth-money, 9, 29.
 Champion, Robert, of Meare, 20.
 Chante. *See* Chaunt.
 Chapman, Richard, and Richard, his son, 99, 100.
 Chaple, Mary, 219.
 Chapple, William, of Crowcombe, 179.
 Chaunt (Chante), Mary, 132, 179, 199, 209; William, of Odcombe, 179, 199, 209.
 Chave, George, 50; William, of West Bagborough, 50.
 Checkford, Jane, of Chard, 211, 212.
 Chesterdon, —, 203.
 Chesterton, Hugh, and Dinah, his wife, 154.
 Cheude *als.* Jones, Anne, 20.
 Chilton, John, 71.
 Chinn, William, 72.
 Chislett, John, of Norton under Hamdon, 142.
 Christopher, John, 152.
 Chubb, William, 75, 81, 86.
 Churchey (Churchay, Churchill), Richard, of Wincanton, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 61, 84, 85; treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 132, 159 *bis*.
 Churchill, Sir John, J.P., 201; John, of Dorchester, deputy collector of Hearth-money, 95; Richard, of Dorchester, collector of Hearth-money, 95.
 Churchowse, German, of Yeovil, 200.
 Clarke, Edward, J.P., 16, 17, 19, 21, 35, 36, 37, 47, 66, 68, 71, 75, 91, 94, 106, 121, 146, 180, 181, 184, 188, 195, 196, 202; Emma, of Stoke St. Gregory, 183; Jacob, 208; Jane, 129; John, 87; John, junior, 72; John, of Ashcot, 78; Philip, 72; Richard, of Witham Friary and Beakeley, co. Wilts, 151; Thomas, 110; William, J.P., 134, 139, 151, 154, 161, 164, 165, 167, 180, 183, 189, 195, 200, 203, 206, 214, 216, 221.

- Clatham (Clattham) *als.* Leaky, Ann, 163, 165, 170.
 Clattworthy, Walter, of Langford Budville, 219.
 Cleeves, George, of Northover, 204.
 Clement, John, of Dunster, deputy collector of Hearth-money, 95 ; John, of Wincanton, 96.
 Clench, Robert, 9.
 Clifford, Thomas, Lord Clifford, 151.
 Cloose, Thomas, 55.
 Clothier (Clother), Alice, 46, 76 ; Henry, 76 ; Stephen, of North Cadbury, 46, 59, 76.
 Coate, John, 138.
 Cole, Richard, of Ditchat, 147 ; William, of Northover, 219.
 Coleford, Thomas, of Dulverton, 67.
 Colemer. *See* Colmer.
 Coles, James, 179 ; Thomas, of Croscombe, tithingman of Croscombe, 24.
 Collens, Joseph, and Mary, his wife, 161.
 Collins, Dorothy, 84 ; William, 138.
 Colmer (Colemer), Joan, of Butleigh, 160, 163.
 Colsery, Agnes, 138.
 Colston, Mr., 15.
 Combe, James, of Compton Dundon, 219 ; Thomas, of South Brent, 22.
 Combes, Henry, of Henstridge, 98 ; Richard, 79 ; Richard, treasurer of Frome almshouse, 31.
 Combestoke, Richard, 123.
 Connaway (Conaway), Samuel, 47, 53.
 Cooke, Anthony, of Frome Selwood, 7 ; George, 112 ; Henry, 112 ; John, of Bath, 60 ; Justian, of Compton Dundon, 219 ; Susan, of Buckland Denham, 5, 6 ; Theophilus, 4 ; Thomas, 169.
 Cookesly, William, and Edith, his wife, 150 ; William, the elder, of Wellington, 52.
 Cooper, William, of Glastonbury, 155.
 Copp, *als.* Whelliard, Marmaduke, of Fivehead, and Mary, his wife, 131.
 Corby, Margery, of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, 119.
 Corpe, Anne, 7.
 Cottham, John, of East Horrington, 186.
 Councell, William, senior, of Theale, 73.
 Court, Edward, J.P., 8, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 27, 32, 37, 41, 43, 44, 63, 64, 65, 84, 85, 91, 100, 101, 108, 116, 117, 118, 120 *bis*, 130, 136, 137 *bis*, 138 *bis*, 139 *bis*, 142, 145, 152 *bis*, 160, 163, 164, 167, 168, 173, 174 *bis*, 178, 180 *bis*, 181, 183 *bis*, 185, 187, 189, 192, 194, 199, 201 *bis*, 202, 204, 205 *bis*, 206, 207, 219, 222, 223 ; John, 29 ; Thomas, 81.
 Coventry, Sir John, lord of Fitzhead manor, 15.
 Coward, Edward, 196.
 Cox, John, of East Pennard, 60 ; Joseph, 120 ; Nicholas, 161 ; Thomas, overseer of Stoke Lane, 25.
 Crane, Thomas, of Hadspen, 127.
 Crawley, George, 32.
 Credge, Henry, 216.
 Creech, Daniel, of Walton, 76 ; Henry, of Charlton Mackrell, 212 ; John, of Cary Fitzpaine, 98 ; Thomas, 90, 135, 159, 164, 176.
 Creedy, Robert, 221.
 Creighton, Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 33, 138.
 Cribb, Thomas, of Glastonbury, 157.
 Cridland, Joan, 148 ; John, of Spaxton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 26, 43 ; William, highway surveyor of Cannington, 106.
 Cromwell, Robert, of Combe Hay, 60.
 Crosse, Henry, 69, 71, 76 ; John, 54 ; John, of Stogursey, 87, 100 ; Richard, cursitor, 95 ; Richard, J.P., 134, 152, 155, 161, 163, 173, 185, 187, 191, 192, 198, 200, 210, 217, 221, 223 ; Thomas, of Bishop's Lydeard, 181 ; Thomas, of Taunton St. James, 70.
 Crynne, Frances, of Spaxton, 40, 44.
 Cullifor *als.* Gullifor, William, of Horsington, 185.
 Curle, Nicholas, of Broomfield, 23, 26, 34, 50.

Curry, William, 210.
Curtis, Thomas, of Shepton Mallet, 60.
Cussens, Elizabeth, 108.

D.

- Dabb, John, collector of Excise, 122.
Dadscombe (Datscombe), Lewis, of Brushford, 20, 34, 57, 58, 72.
Daniell, Henry, of Brislington, 148;
Thomas, churchwarden of Brislington, 1.
Darch, Th., 146.
Datscombe. *See* Dadscombe.
Davies (Davyes, Davys), Edward, 217; Edward, keeper of the County Gaol and House of Correction at Ilchester, 8, 83, 90, 103, 114, 173, 196; John, of Shepton Beauchamp, 82; Margaret, 82.
Davis, John, of Piddle, deputy collector of Hearth-money, 95; Philip, 1.
Davison, Henry, of Freshford, 81, 90.
Davy, Eleanor, of Wiveliscombe, 199, 201; Joan, of Bathealton, 167;
Joseph, of Brompton Ralph, 180, 181; William, 202.
Davyes, Davys. *See* Davies.
Daw, Edmund, 26.
Day, Edward, 96; Eleanor, 50; Elizabeth, 69; George, 88; George, of Glastonbury, 55; James, of Stogursey, 151; John, 56.
Deane, Henry, LL.D., J.P., 81, 87, 89, 93, 94, 104, 107 *bis*, 109, 113, 121.
Denman, Aaron, of Baltonsborough, 152.
Dennys, John, Elizabeth, wife of, 87.
Denslow (Denselow), Richard, keeper of the county gaol, 34, 48.
Dibble (Dible), Henry, of Stoke St. Gregory, and Mary, his wife, 12, 18, 37; Joan, of Thurloxton, 133; John, of Middlezoy, 72; Richard, constable of Stoke St. Gregory, 141.
Dickes, James, 48.
Dike, Theophilus, 32.
Dinham, Catherine, of Glastonbury, and Catherine, her daughter-in-law, and Catherine, her granddaughter, 191, 199.
Dirham *als.* Farmer, John, overseer of North Curry, 81.
Dix, Joseph, of Emborough, 62.
Dobbinet, John, 121.
Doble, William, 12, 17, 215.
Dobyn, Christopher, of Middlezoy, 43.
Doddimeade, Richard, and his sons, James and Richard, 212, 213.
Dodington, Stephen, under-sheriff, 58.
Dolinge, Richard, 2.
Dollin, Henry, constable of Martock Hundred, 222.
Dollinge, Christopher and Henry, of Dorchester, deputy collectors of Hearth Money, 95.
Dorvall, the widow, of East Pennard, 47, 48, 53.
Dovell, Susan, 51.
Dowdey, Thomas, of East Pennard, 55.
Dowlis, Thomas, the elder and younger, 116.
Downe, Peter, 138.
Downton, Catherine, 199; Thomas, 210, 211, 217.
Dowthwayte, Nicholas, of Wells, 113.
Drake, Philip, of Chard, 10.
Draper, Robert, of Frome Selwood, 22.
Drayhton, Mary, of Lopen, 201.
Drewe, Francis, J.P. for Devon, 149.
Drewston, Edward, of West Buckland, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 220.
Dudderidge, John, 148.
Duke, Thomas, 5.
Dummett, Christopher, 120.
Dunstar, Thomas, 136.
Dupe, Andrew, of Evercreech, 151; James, 151.
Durstun, William, of Durstun, 154.
Dyer, Alice, of East Quantoxhead, 163; Joseph, churchwarden of Milverton, 64; Robert, of Lydeard St. Lawrence, 182.
Dyer *als.* Sully, John, 109, 113.

E.

Earle, Henry, 10.
 Eastbrooke, William, of Bishop's Lydeard, 117.
 Eastmond, John, 38, 42; Thomas, 36.
 Edgill, Henry, 158; Richard, 158.
 Edmonds, William, of Long Sutton, 198.
 Edwardes *als.* Morgan, William, of Stringston, 14.
 Edwards, Joan, 48, 49; Joseph, of Kingstone, 52; William, of Okeford, 48, 49.
 Elford, John, 93.
 Ellyott, William, of South Petherton, 110.
 Emblyn, Thomas, of Sandford Orcas, 131.
 England, Hannah, of Taunton St. James, 160, 163, 167; William, 119.
 Evan Llewellyn ap Evan, 27.
 Evans, John and William, of East Horrington, 186; William, of St. Andrew's, Wells, 182.
 Everard, Joan, of Spaxton, 87, 100.
 Evercrech, Thomas, 129.
 Everett, Matthew, of Evercrech, 148; Thomas, of Glastonbury, 185.
 Every, Gregory, overseer of North Curry, 81; John, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 132, 135.
 Evill, Edith, 132, 133, 139.
 Exon, Henry, collector of the Greenwax, 160; Robert, of Stogumber, 126.

F.

Facy, Humphrey, of Berrow, 128.
 Falvey, Elias, of Culbone, clerk, 51.
 Fane, William, D.D., J.P., 187, 192, 195.
 Farmer, Alce, and her children, John, Laurence, Mary and Alce, 137.
 Farmer *als.* Dirham, John, overseer of North Curry, 81.
 Fawlett, Alice, of Witham Friary, 151.
 Pearce, Jeremy, of Winscombe, 41, 46, 49.

Fitzhardinge, Maurice, Viscount, J.P., 68, 90, 113, 132, 147, 175, 208, 221.
 Fitz James, Richard, of Redlynch, 181.
 Fleete (Fleede), Richard, of Wiveliscombe, constable of Kingsbury West Hundred, 109, 126.
 Flower, Robert, of Bristol, deputy collector of Hearth Money, 95; William, 71.
 Floyer, William, J.P. for Dorset, 87.
 Foley, —, 204.
 Forehead, James, and Mary, his wife, 49.
 Forrest, Richard, of East Pennard, 78.
 Forshaw, Lawrence, 115, 126.
 Fort, James, lord of fee in Curry Rivell, 123; John, 204.
 Forward, Thomas, 16.
 Fossey, Thomas, of Shepton Montagu, 70.
 Foster, Giles, churchwarden of North Curry, 105; Thomas, and Rabidge, his wife, of Aller, 28; —, tithingman of Aller, 73.
 Fox, Mary, 118, 122; William, 161, 167.
 Foxewell *als.* Foxhole, Henry, of Baltonsborough, and Mary, his wife, 182, 186.
 Francis, Thomas, of North Petherton, 224.
 Francklin, Catherine, 210.
 Frapwell, Walter, of Stone Easton, 95.
 Freake, Elizabeth, of South Brewham, 181; Frances, of South Brewham, 182; John, of South Brewham, Mary, wife of, 181.
 Freeman, Richard, of Hinton Charterhouse, 60.
 Frowman, William, overseer of Goathurst, 169.
 Fry, Joan, 144, 145; Thomas, 144.
 Fullaway, William, 138.
 Fulwood, James, 93.
 Furber, John, of Pitcombe, 79.

G.

Gaige, John, churchwarden of Goathurst, 169.

- Gaige *als.* Vicary, John, 178.
 Gainfeild, George, of West Cranmore, 198.
 Gale, Thomas, of Taunton St. James, 114.
 Galhampton, —, constable of the hundred of Taunton and Taunton Dean, 4.
 Galpen, John, of Ash Priors, 46.
 Gapper, Robert, lord of fee in Horsington, 133.
 Garman, Mary, 173, 174.
 Garnesey, John, of Taunton St. James, 160, 163, 167.
 Gatchell, Henry, of West Monkton, 130; Thomas, of North Petherton or Clavelshay, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 61, 84, 85 *bis*, 173, 199.
 Gatcombe, John, of Chedzoy, 6, 15.
 Gausell, —, of Cranmore, 174.
 Gay, Frances, 172.
 Gaylard, Matthew, of Pitminster, 69.
 George, James, 19; Rice, 161.
 Gibbs (Gibbes), James, of Chardland, 153; Richard, and Eleanor his wife, 170, 175, 179; William, of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, 119.
 Gilbert, William, of Bridgewater, 191.
 Gill, William, of Stogursey, 40.
 Gillett, Sidrack, of Whitchurch, 60, 65.
 Gillot, Bryan, 14.
 Girrish, John, 81, 90.
 Glasse, Edmond, of Wellington, 35; Richard, 67.
 Godfry (Godfree), Thomas, 72; William, 23.
 Godfry *als.* Humphry, Henry, of Old Cleeve, 15.
 Godwin, John, of Nailsea, 4.
 Goffe, John, 44, 47, 50.
 Goodman, George, 181; Philip, of Wiveliscombe, constable of Kingsbury West hundred, 190, 214.
 Goodrick, Eleanor, 201.
 Goodson, Anthony, collector of Excise, 38, 42.
 Goold, Thomas, 210, 219.
 Gould, Thomas, of Taunton, 68.
 Gore, Sir Thomas, J.P., 10, 24, 39, 46, 49, 89, 94, 152, 155, 171, 172, 173.
 Gorges, Edward, J.P., 143, 165, 173, 192, 193, 198, 201; Samuel, J.P., 4, 10, 24, 27, 35, 75, 89, 94, 98.
 Gorton, Frances, of Lydecard St. Lawrence, 168.
 Gothard, Toby, 72.
 Grabham, Sir Richard, 200.
 Granger, William, vicar of Milverton, 64.
 Grave, Charles, of Bradford, 103.
 Greene, John, 173.
 Gregory, Helena, of West Bradley, 152; Humphrey, 121.
 Grey, Angel, J.P., 46.
 Griffin, Mary, of Middlezoy, 43.
 Griffith, Lieut. John, 52, 65; Josias, 123.
 Grimsby (Grimsbey), James, of Chew Magna, 147, 160, 166, 172.
 Grimstead, John, 5.
 Grove, John, of Fiddington, 193.
 Grymes, William, of Nunney, 64.
 Gullet, John, 63; William, 63.
 Gullifor *als.* Cullifor, William, of Horsington, 185.
 Gullock, Francis, of Dulcote, 182; John, tithingman of Copland, 2.
 Gunninge, Eleanor, 127.
 Gutch, Henry, of St. John's, Glastonbury, 188.
 Gwin, Richard, receiver of Hearth Money, 29.
 Gyles, Elizabeth, of West Coker, 69; Richard, of Taunton, 48.

H.

- Haggett, Mary, 52.
 Hales, Merven, 128.
 Hall, John, 187; John, J.P., 16, 22, 24, 33, 41, 48, 57, 59, 64, 70, 93; John, J.P. for Wilts, 194; William, of Oldford, 7.
 Hamlin, John, 177.
 Hancock, John, 143; John, of Ilchester, 83.
 Hannay, Roger, 2.
 Harcombe, James, 146.

- Harding *als.* Parre, John, of Bicknoller, 37.
 Hardman, John, of Taunton St. James, 44.
 Hare, Nicholas, of Cheddon, 5.
 Harrington, John, J.P., 6, 11, 58, 63, 98, 112, 119, 126, 129, 134, 138, 154, 156, 165, 169, 170, 194, 208, 212, 222.
 Harris, Giles, of North Patherton, 164; John, of Yatton, 153.
 Harrison, William, under-sheriff, 211.
 Hart, Roger, of Ashbrittle, 54.
 Harvey, William, 2.
 Hathway, Francis, of Buckland St. Mary, clerk, 6.
 Hawkes, David, 65; John, of Stogumber, 52.
 Hawkins, John, 8; William, of Fitzhead, 121.
 Hawley (Hawly), Robert, J.P., 16, 17, 19, 21, 35, 37, 47, 66, 75, 121, 134, 137, 139, 152, 153, 154, 164 *bis*, 167, 173, 181, 183, 184, 185, 206, 214, 221.
 Hayes, Andrew, of Bristol, deputy collector of Hearth Money, 95; Sir James, J.P., 126.
 Hayne, Edith, 10.
 Hayward, Edward, 123.
 Heale, Sarah, of Portishead, 193; Thomas, of Winscombe, 41, 46, 49.
 Heath, Nicholas, 80; Thomas, of Priestleigh, master of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet, 93, 137.
 Hedges, William, 119.
 Helyar (Heliar, Helliard, Helier, Hellyar), Robert, of Hinton, 74; Thomas, vicar of East Chinnock, 174; William, J.P., 7, 8, 10, 16, 18, 28 *bis*, 42, 56, 63, 69, 103, 110, 135, 179, 192, 198, 199, 205, 209, 210; Mrs., 44.
 Henborowe, David, of Brompton Ralph, 180, 181; Robert, of Brompton Ralph, and Agnes, his daughter, 180.
 Hereford (Herryford), John, of Wells, 63, 157, 159.
 Hewish, Richard, 25. *See also* Huish.
 Hickes. *See* Hix.
 Hide. *See* Hyde.
 Higgins, Jo., 55.
 Hill, Alexander, 110; Eleanor, 28; Joan, 165; John, of Cranmore, 174; Robert, of West Pennard, 52; Samuel, curate of Seavington, 127; Thomas, 156.
 Hillard, John, 56.
 Hilliard, William, of Sea, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 7, 14, 26, 43.
 Hilman, William, of Congresbury, 4.
 Hinde, Thomas, 27.
 Hinton, William, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 176, 186, 197, 225.
 Hipplesly (Hipesley, Hipplesley, Hippsley), Gabriel, of West Lydford, 148, 149; John, J.P., 6; Richard, of Stone Easton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 61, 84; lord of Emborough manor, 62; lord of fee in Cameley, 116; lord of fee in Stone Easton, 95; Thomas, senior, overseer of Cameley, 115; William, of West Lydford, 148.
 Hix (Hickes, Hixe), Edward, of Castle Cary, 158; Gabriel, 60, 79, 97, 114; Jeremiah, of Bedminster, 60; Thomas, of Moorlinch, 108.
 Hobbs, George, 130.
 Hodges, George, 198, 206, 212; John, 137; John, of Charlton Musgrave, 88; Richard, 107, 109; Walter, 138.
 Holbrooke, John, 125.
 Hole, William, of Bossington, 17, 31.
 Holland, Robert, 157.
 Holmes, Joseph, of Ilminster, 146.
 Holsworth, Dorothy, 74.
 Holt, Andrew, 65; Thomas, D.D., J.P., 113, 141, 147, 187, 192, 213, 221.
 Honnyball (Hunniball), Humphrey, of Over Stowey, 208; Thomas, 41.
 Hooke, Sir Thomas, 193.
 Hookins, Henry, of Bishops Hull, 164.
 Hooper, Edward, 167, 170; George, of Weston Zoyland, 72; Henry, 108; Humphrey, of Watchett, 162, 164; Mary, 41, 46, 49; Thomas, 14, 20; William, of Montacute, and Sythe, his wife, 118.

- Hopkins, Nicholas, of St. John's, Glastonbury, 188.
- Hore, John, of Ditcheat, 156; Sarah, of Castle Cary, 158.
- Horner, Sir George, J.P., 6 *bis*, 25, 27, 29, 90, 92, 126, 128, 151, 162, 170, 175, 188 *bis*, 189 *bis*, 221; Sir George, sheriff, 58; Sir George, lord of Doultling manor, 4.
- Horseman, John, of Batheaston, 78, 79.
- Horton, Coplestone, 79.
- Horwood, Robert, 116.
- Hoskins, Mary, and Francis, her son, 6.
- House (Howse), Elizabeth, of Curry Mallet, 63; Thomas, of Compton Martin, 58, 77.
- How, Henry, of West Buckland, 126, 127; John, of Somerton, 21.
- Hues, Thomas, 162.
- Hughes, Martin, of Thorne St. Margaret, 70.
- Huish, Robert, highway surveyor of Cannington, 106. *See also* Hewish.
- Hulbert (Hubert), John, 49, 51; Robert, of Chewton, and Elizabeth, his wife, 25.
- Humphry *als.* Godfry, Henry, of Old Cleeve, 15.
- Hungerford, Sir Edward, J.P., 64, 126, 135, 143, 188, 189; lord of West Lydford manor, 174.
- Hunniball. *See* Honnyball.
- Hunt, Philip, of Road, 112, 196; Robert, J.P., 15, 16, 19, 31, 33, 34, 36, 46, 51, 56 *bis*, 60, 65, 68, 71, 81, 84, 87, 88, 92, 96, 98, 103, 110, 113, 121, 125, 127 *bis*, 132 *ter*, 135, 136, 139, 141 *bis*, 142 *bis*, 147 *bis*, 148, 152, 158, 160, 163, 168, 175, 194, 199, 200 *bis*, 201, 208, 212, 213, 216 *ter*, 219 *bis*, 221, 223.
- Huntley, Thomas, of Shepton Mallet, 57, 86.
- Hurley, John, of East Quantoxhead, 35.
- Hurstone, Mary, of North Curry, 43.
- Hutchins, Thomas, of Seavington, 136, 137.
- Hyatt, Thomas, of Street, 6.
- Hyde (Hide), Edward, J.P. for Wilts, 41; Robert, 124; Robert, of Yarlington, 84.
- I.
- Ilett, George, of Wells Forum, 60.
- Inges, John, 9.
- Isham, John, 190.
- Ivery, Richard, of Pitminster, 69.
- J.
- Jacob, Thomas, of East Pennard, 39.
- Jallope, James, of Kingston, 180, 193, 194; Philip, 180.
- James, Richard, of Fivehead, 52; Thomas, governor of Langport hospital, 40, 44, 52, 57, 69, 78, 128; governor of Curry Rivell almshouse, 103.
- Janes, Thomas, 198.
- Jeane, Richard, 53; William, 53, 54, 59.
- Jeanes, Christopher, of Meare, 160, 163, 208; Hugh, 153; Robert, of Easton in East Pennard, treasurer of the hospitals in the Eastern Division, 26, 43 *bis*, 45; Thomas, 171; William, 68.
- Jeffery, Robert, junior, of Huntspill, 145.
- Jellett, John, of North Petherton, 52; Thomas, overseer of Donyatt, 11.
- Jenings (Jennings), John, 34; John, of Withycombe, 161, 167; Thomas, 128.
- Jenkins (Jenckins), Alice, 27, 90, 94; Jane, 112; William, overseer of Milverton, 64.
- Jillett, Brian, 30.
- Jones (Joanes), Edmund, 105; Hugh, of Batcombe, 129; John, 189, 192; Philip, of Mells, 159; Robert, 58; Robert, of Taunton St. James, 44, 207; William, of Whitchurch, 79.
- Jones *als.* Cheude, Anne, 20.
- Joyce, Ann, 170; Jane, 215.

K.

- Keene, Sidwell, 177.
 Kelson (Kilson), John, 92, 97, 103.
 Kempe, John, of Combe St. Nicholas, 175, 179.
 Kerle, Robert, 60.
 Kerslake, Peter, 35.
 Kerton, John, of East Harptree, 82.
 Key, Henry, overseer of Ilminster, 107.
 Keysar, Thomas, overseer of North Curry, 81.
 Kidner, Francis, 139.
 Kilson. *See* Kelson.
 Kinge, Ann, of Goathurst, 169; Humphrey, of Wilton, and his daughters, Margery and Prudence, 117, 133; John, of Hillfarrence, 106; Richard, 212; Robert, of Wincanton, 132.
 Kingsmill, Lady Ann, 115, 126.
 Kitchen, Nicholas, of Felton, 46.
 Knight, Daniel, 174; Francis, of Asholt, 151; George, of Taunton Magdalen, 47, 70; Joan, of Thorne St. Margaret, 35; John, 194; Robert, 15; William, of Kingston, 120.
 Knowles, Deanes, of Ashill, 65.

L.

- Lacy, William, J.P., 21, 66, 82, 101, 103, 105, 119, 125, 126, 130, 145, 156, 169, 176, 184, 188, 193, 202, 209, 210, 215.
 Lambert, William, of Halse, 181, 188.
 Lancaster, Edward, of Cheddar, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 84.
 Lang (Lange), Giles, 36; Richard, of Barwick, 158.
 Langdon, Daniel, 45.
 Langdon *als.* May, Hannah, 188.
 Langton, Joseph, J.P., 129, 134, 138, 143, 154, 156, 165, 169, 170, 193, 194, 208, 218, 222.
 Lantrow, John, of Bawdrip, 140.
 Large, Richard, of Bedminster, 192.
 Lavington (Lavingdon), Alice, of West Horrington, 182; Mary, of East Horrington, 186.
 Lawrence (Laurence), George, of London, deputy collector of Hearth Money, 95; Henry, 169; John, 4; Ruth, of Taunton St. James, 183.
 Lea, Thomas, of Stoke St. Gregory, 49.
 Leach, Joan, of Broomfield, 224.
 Leaky *als.* Clattham, Ann, 170.
 Leamon, John, of Blagdon, 172.
 Leare, George, constable of Norton Ferris Hundred, 132.
 Ledgingham (Lydgingham), Thomas, of Taunton, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 132, 158, 159.
 Lee, John, 8.
 Lemon, John, 2.
 Lewes, Mary, 215; Elizabeth (*née* Freake), of South Brewham, 181.
 Lewis, Edward, of Bath, 60; Henry, clerk, 125; John, 120; John, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 14 *bis*, 21, 53, 60, 66; John, the elder, of Axbridge, 158; Richard, J.P. for Wilts, 194.
 Lide. *See* Lyde.
 Limbry, Robert, 5.
 Lindon, Walter, of North Petherton, 19.
 Lininge, John, 200.
 Linterne (Lynterne), John, of Odcombe, 132, 199, 209 *bis*.
 Liske, Charles, 187.
 Lissant (Lyssant), George, 117, 132, 133; Philip, 190.
 Lloid, Bevis, receiver of Hearth Money, 29.
 Lockyer, John, under-sheriff, 124; John, of Ilchester, attorney, 149; Thomas, under-sheriff, 127; William, 72.
 Longe, Aquila, 168, 170; Joseph, of Fivehead, 168, 170; William, of Bridgewater, 89, 95.
 Loscombe, John, 166, 172.
 Lovelesse, Joan, 169.
 Lovell, John, of East Wells, 79.
 Lucas, Robert, of Dulverton, 67.

Lucocke, John, 137.
 Lucy, Kingsmill, of Castle Cary, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 132, 135.
 Ludwell, Jane, of Redlynch, 182.
 Luffman, Richard, 216, 217, 222.
 Lumbard, Honor, 106.
 Lumbert, William, of Chaffcombe, 84, 91.
 Lyall, Charles, 73; John, 73; Patrick, 73.
 Lyde (Lide), Gregory, junior, 72; Richard, of Over Stowey, 208.
 Lydgingham. *See* Ledgingham.
 Lyneham, James, 116; Rebecca, 116.
 Lyterne. *See* Linterne.
 Lyssant. *See* Lissant.

M.

Magges, Richard, 149; Tobias, 116; William, 213.
 Mallack, John, of Taunton, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 104.
 Mallack *als.* Ruge, Penelope, 169.
 Mallet (Malet, Malett, Mallett), Sir John, J.P., 8, 36, 51, 66, 91, 101, 103, 105, 108, 109, 125, 126, 156, 161, 162 *bis*, 163, 170, 184, 208 *bis*, 209, 210, 212, 216.
 Manfeild, Ambrose, of Langport, 90.
 Mansell, Elizabeth, 68.
 March, —, 67.
 Marsh, Philip, 79; Robert, of Bridgewater, 26; William, of Hardington, 9.
 Martin, Anne, 40; Elizabeth, 16, 23; Grace, of Wollavington, 84; Hugh, 121; James, of Cheddar, 26; John, of Fitzhead, 112; John, of South Barrow, 41; Margaret, of Baltonsborough, 182, 186; Richard, 41; Sarah, 39; Thomas, of Baltonsborough, and Mary, his wife, 182, 186; William, of Huntspill, 123.
 Maskall, John, of Bedminster, 120.
 Masters, Edward, of Pilton, 145; Richard, 114.

Matrevers, John, 7.
 Matthews, Charles, of Wincanton, 205.
 Maunsell, Christopher, 32; Daniel, of Keynsham, 79.
 May *als.* Langdon, Hannah, 188.
 Maye, John, of Ilchester, 45.
 Meade, Jeremy, churchwarden of Curry Mallet, 63; John, of Street, 59, 64; Philip, reeve of North Curry, 203; William, of Yeovil, 174.
 Meaker, Thomas, 36.
 Mebbrick *als.* Bull, Thomas, of Bishop's Hull, 157.
 Melafshae, Frances, 118.
 Melledge, William, of Glastonbury, and Anne, his wife, 182.
 Mellior (Melior, Mellier), Robert, of Wheathill, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 199, 220, 225.
 Menot, Henry, and Henry, his son, 97.
 Merchant, Thomas, of Paulton, 209.
 Meredith, John, J.P. for Gloucestershire, 93.
 Meree, Peter, 17.
 Merryfeild (Merefeild), Edward, of Merriott, and Catherine, his wife, 157; George, attorney, 5; Mary, 157.
 Mew, Peter, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 187, 191 *bis*, 192, 200, 210, 217, 221, 223.
 Midlam, John, 213.
 Midland, James, 156, 166.
 Milborne, John, 163.
 Miles, Robert, overseer of West Bagborough, 69.
 Millard, Richard, 170; Richard, of Shepton Mallet, 196; Susanna, 167, 172.
 Mitchell, William, 23, 72.
 Mitton, William, of Road, 145.
 Mogge, Elizabeth, of Baltonsborough, 186.
 Moggeridge, Allen, of Somerton, 144, 145.
 Mompesson, Sir Thomas, J.P. for Wilts, 113.

Moore, Ambrose, of Bickenhall, 48 ;
 Thomas, of Spargrove, treasurer of
 the hospitals of the Eastern Divi-
 sion, 158, 164 ; the same, treasurer
 for the maimed soldiers, 198, 220,
 225.
 Morgan, Richard, J.P., 143, 155, 192,
 201.
 Morgan *als.* Edwardes, William, of
 Stringston, 14.
 Morley, William, of Swainswick, 58
bis.
 Morrice, John, of South Cadbury, 174.
 Morris, Alexander, of Monkton Combe,
 47.
 Morse, Abraham, of Broomfield, 224 ;
 John, of Over Stowey, 208.
 Mortimer, Anthony, 173.
 Moses, John, of Shapwick, 8.
 Mudford, Stephen, 222.
 Mudge, Thomas, 165.
 Munckton, William, 51.
 Munday, Richard, 10.
 Musgrave, John, of Thornfalcon, 3 ;
 John, of Wellington, constable of
 Kingsbury West Hundred, 166,
 190 ; Samuel, of Taunton St.
 James, 3.

N.

Naish (Naysh), James, churchwarden
 of Cameley, 115 ; James, overseer
 of Cameley, 115.
 Naylor, Richard, of Glastonbury, 78.
 Nethway, Joan, of Cleavedon, 98.
 Nevill, Edward, J.P., 212 ; George,
 clerk, 80, 81 ; Mr., 143.
 Newberry, Joseph, 217.
 Newstead, Fulhurst, 32.
 Newton, Sir John, J.P. for Gloucester-
 shire, 93.
 Nicholls, Henry, clerk, and Thomas,
 his son, 51 ; Henry, of Shepton
 Mallet, 16 ; Henry, of King's
 Brimpton, 149.
 Nix, Richard, 158.
 Norcott, James, of Wrington, 153 ;
 Thomas, 19.
 Norman, Martin, 162.

Norris, George, of Donyatt, 107 ;
 Philip, overseer of Curry Mallet, 63.
 North, Sir Francis, Chief Justice of
 the Bench, 195.
 Northover, George, 28.
 Norton, Sir George, J.P., 10, 24, 27,
 35, 39.
 Norvall, Matthew, of Berrow, 102.
 Nosse, Robert, and Thomas, of
 Taunton St. James, 207.
 Nurton, Joan, of Norton Fitzwarren,
 183, 184, 189.
 Nutticombe, Sarah, of Theale, 72, 73.

O.

Oastler, Joan, 89 ; Robert, of Norton
 under Hamdon, and Joan, his wife,
 83.
 Odber, John, of South Cheriton, 133.
 Oliver (Olliver), George, 209 ; Joan,
 of Culbone, 51 ; Mary, 158 ;
 Robert, 2.
 Orchard, James, of Little Winsor,
 210 ; Robert, of East Horrington,
 186.
 Osborne, James, 170 ; John, 79, 87,
 205.
 Osmond, Ruth, 189.
 Othery, Athawin, 9.
 Owen, John, of Milverton, bailiff of
 Milverton Hundred, 177 ; Thomas,
 26, 203.

P.

Paige, Thomas, of Taunton, 177, 178.
 Paine, Agnes, 22 ; Thomas, 22.
 Painter, Mary, of Thurlbear, 137.
 Pall, Thomas, 222.
 Palmer, Jonathan, 80 ; Mary, 80 ;
 Peregrine, J.P., 5, 6, 19, 40, 43,
 46, 64, 68, 72, 101, 124, 125, 133,
 134, 200, 206 ; Richard, of Bick-
 noller, 125 ; Sarah, 110.
 Panton, Edith, of Swainswick, 58 ;
 Joshua, 129 ; Richard, 58, 129.
 Parfitt, William, 216.
 Parker, John, Alice, wife of, 194.

- Parre *als.* Harding, John, of Bicknoller, 37.
- Parrett, Thomas, of Skilgate, 159.
- Parris, Lewis, of Milverton, 16 ; Thomas, of Whitestaunton, 219.
- Parsons, Arthur, 120 ; Christopher, of Frome, 29 ; Edmund, 35, 37 ; George, 72 ; John, 161 ; Moses, of Ashcot, 167 ; Peter, of Dulverton, 67 ; Thomas, 55.
- Partridge, Henry, of Crewkerne, 138 ; William, 138.
- Patch, Bernard, of Ashcot, 26.
- Paule, Charles, 69 ; John, of Broadwinsor, 69.
- Paulett. *See* Poulett.
- Pawgoose, Thomas, 72.
- Pawlet, Pawlett. *See* Poulett.
- Pearce, John, constable of Winterstoke Hundred, 62.
- Peaseley, Robert, of Brislington, 65.
- Penny (Penney), Jane, 90 ; John, of Swell, 112, 117 ; Richard, 2.
- Penson, Geoffrey, 10.
- Peppyn (Pepin, Peppin, Pippen), George, of Dulverton, 67, 74, 89, 101, 124.
- Periam, Edward, 105 ; Mary, of Runnington, 99.
- Perry (Perrey), Anne, of Dulcote, 182 ; Francis, of East Horrington, 186 ; James, 179 ; Jenkin, 66 ; John, 164 ; John, of Wellington, 21 ; — of North Cadbury, 217, 222.
- Perryn, Thomas, 155.
- Pester, Joan, of Bishop's Hull, 164.
- Pether, Moses, 123, 126 ; Thomas, of Congresbury, 53.
- Petty, Richard, of Lydeard St. Lawrence, 130.
- Pettybones, Christopher, of Stoke St. Gregory, 49.
- Phelipps (Phellipps, Phillipps, Philipps), Sir Edward, J.P., 8 *bis*, 10, 15, 16, 18, 28 *bis*, 33, 34, 56, 61, 63, 65, 69, 71, 73, 84, 89, 90, 92, 94, 103 *ter*, 104, 107, 108, 110, 111, 113, 117, 127 *bis*, 131, 132, 135, 136 *bis*, 142 *bis*, 152, 153, 156, 157, 158, 161, 165, 166, 168 *bis*, 173, 179 *bis*, 192, 193, 194, 198, 199, 200, 203, 205, 207, 209, 214, 219, 220, 222, 223 ; Edward, J.P., 63, 69, 88, 113, 117, 132, 161, 166, 194, 222 ; Edward, of Pilton, 3 ; Mary, of Shepton Mallet, 70 ; William, 207 ; William, of Long Ashton, 192.
- Phelpes, Dorothy, of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, 56 ; John, 56.
- Philipps, Phillipps. *See* Phelipps.
- Phlippen (Phlippin), Elizabeth, 100, 107, 120.
- Pickold, Ambrose, 2.
- Pigott (Piggott, Pygott), Thomas, J.P., 10, 24, 35, 39, 41, 46, 49, 65, 75, 94, 143.
- Pike, Ann, 174.
- Pile (Pyle), George, of Bishop's Lydeard, constable of Kingsbury West Hundred, 38, 52 ; Robert, overseer of Milverton, 64.
- Pinkard (Pinckard), William, of Keynsham, 193 ; William, of West Lydford, 149.
- Pinn, Laurence, 21.
- Pinny, John, 65, 71.
- Pippen. *See* Peppyn.
- Pitman (Pytman), Annis, of Street, 6 ; Henry, of Woolston, 59, 76 ; Joan, 97 ; John, of East Pennard, 147 ; —, widow, 163.
- Pitt, Jo., 146.
- Pittard, Christopher, 138.
- Pitts (Pittes), Jonathan, 128 ; John, of Moorlinch, 60.
- Plowman, William, 15.
- Plumley, Francis, of Driddy, and Jane, his wife, 182 ; James and John, of Driddy, 182.
- Plush, John, of Shepton Mallet, 26.
- Plympton (Plimpton), Robert, of Shepton Mallet, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 43, 45, 61 *bis*.
- Pocock, Jane, 165, 168, 170.
- Podger, Henry, of Langport, 90.
- Poe, Thomas, 71.
- Pole, John, of Bishop's Lydeard, 181.
- Poles, Edward, 82.
- Pollett, Nicholas, 2.
- Polsham, John, of Bath, 60.

Polton, Elizabeth, of Bristol, 152.
 Poole, Edward, 221; Elizabeth, of Combe St. Nicholas, 175.
 Poore, Edward, of Ilton, 111.
 Pope, Hannah, of Backwell, 201; Richard, 143.
 Popham, Thomas, of North Pether-ton, 125.
 Pople, William, of Marston Magna, 22.
 Porch, Elizabeth, 162.
 Porter, Anne, of St. Decuman's, 162, 164; Humphrey, 163; Thomas, of Hutton, 97.
 Portman, Sir William, 53, 217.
 Potter, John, churchwarden of Thorn St. Margaret, 35; Michael, churchwarden of North Curry, 105.
 Poulett (Paulett, Pawlet, Pawlett, Poulet, Powlett), Francis, J.P., 16, 22, 24, 33, 41, 48, 57, 59, 64, 70, 81, 87, 89, 93, 94, 107 *bis*, 109, 121, 152, 155, 163, 185, 187, 191, 192, 200, 210, 217, 223; John, 3rd Baron Poulett, 178.
 Pounfeild, Christabel, of Northover, 194, 195.
 Powell, George, of Taunton, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 43, 61 *bis*; John, of Cannington, 197; John, of Stoke St. Gregory, 183.
 Pratt *als.* Audley, Edith, 161.
 Pratt, Thomas, of North Pether-ton, 160.
 Prescott, John, 88.
 Price, Stephen, of Hinton St. George, 60.
 Pringuish. *See* Springuish.
 Pritchett, Mary, of Bridgewater, 90.
 Prowse, James, J.P., 7, 17, 27, 32, 68, 84, 91, 94, 111, 120; John, J.P., 146, 153, 158, 162, 223; John, of Axbridge, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 84, 90, 104, 133, 135.
 Pryor, Angel, 65; John, 165; John, junior, overseer of Norton under Hamdon, 83.
 Pullen (Pullinge), Abigail, of Baltons-borough, 182, 186.

Purnell, Joseph, of Farrington Gurney, 212.
 Pygott. *See* Pigott.
 Pyle. *See* Pile.
 Pym, Nicholas, 80.
 Pytman. *See* Pitman.

Q.

Quantock, George, of Kingsbury, 121.

R.

Rainsford (Raynsford), Sir Richard, Judge of Assize, 111, 164.
 Rawbone, Philip, of Stogursey, 41.
 Rawles, Peter, of Glastonbury, 79.
 Rawlins, Rebecca, of Knowle St. Giles, 84, 91; Thomas, the elder and younger, of Keynsham, 112.
 Rayment, Mary, 91.
 Reading, Thomas, and Joan, his wife, 103.
 Reede (Reed), Anne, 89, 95; Susanna, 221.
 Reeves, George, 215, 216; Matthew, 216.
 Rich, Charles, of Over Stowey, 208; Matthew, of Lydeard St. Laurence, 182.
 Richards, Mary, of East Horrington, 186; Simon, of Bishop's Lydeard, 50, 69.
 Rickett, William, 72.
 Ridout, John, of Frome, 4, 11, 12.
 Robertes, Richard, of Monkton Combe, 60.
 Robins, Susanna, 124; Thomas, 216.
 Rogers, Henry, 22; Henry, J.P., 19, 41, 85, 89, 95, 103, 106, 154; Henry, sheriff, 77; Nicholas, 198; Richard, of Corfe, 70; Thomas, 178, 199, 207; Thomas, of Clapton, 171.
 Rolle (Roll), Sir Francis, J.P., 10, 33, 84, 125, 200, 206.
 Romane, Bartholomew, 205.
 Rossiter, Edward, of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, 191.

Rowsewell, James, of Combe Hay, 92.
 Roynon, Peter, J.P., 3, 6 *bis*, 11, 25, 33, 41, 46, 56, 61, 62, 75, 77, 82, 98, 102, 105, 115, 119, 123, 126, 134, 150, 156, 165, 166, 167, 172, 212, 213.
 Rugge (Rugg) *als.* Mallack, Penelope, 161, 169.
 Ruscombe, William, highway surveyor of Cannington, 106.
 Russle, Henry, 169.
 Rutter, John, 221.

S.

St. Albin (St. Albans, St. Albon), John, of Alfoxton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 43, 61, 66.
 Salisbury, Aaron, overseer of Norton under Hamdon, 83.
 Salkes, Richard, 32.
 Salter, Robert, 109.
 Samborne, Maudlyn, 71.
 Sampson, John, of Glastonbury, 182.
 Sandy, Elizabeth, 181.
 Saunders, Agnes, 144; John, of Bruton, 175; John, of Chewton Keynsham, 144; John, of Tiverton, 217; Thomas, 123, 130; Thomas, of Exton, 178.
 Savery, James, overseer of South Brewham, 213.
 Say, Anthony, 194.
 Saywell, Elizabeth, 2; Thomas, 2.
 Scapen, Charles, 4.
 Scorse, William, of Martock, 43.
 Scripture, Anthony, of East Wells, 170.
 Sealy, William, and Katherine, his daughter, 51.
 Searle, William, of Bradford, 85, 102.
 Seaward, Albion, of Crewkerne, 155; Faith, 155; Richard, and Richard, his son, 155.
 Sekerstone, Roger, 32.
 Selfe, William, of Dilton, co. Wilts, 57, 86.
 Sellack, Richard, of Lydeard St. Laurence, 182.
 Seller, Abraham, of Bawdrip, 121.
 Sellock, Thomas, of Dunkerton, 78.
 Sergeant, Richard, 2.
 Serrey, John, barber-surgeon, 14.
 Shattock (Shattocke), Christopher, of North Petherton, 53; Henry, 16; William, overseer of West Bagborough, 69.
 Sheane (Shene), Simon, 41, 76, 81.
 Sheereman, George, of Dorchester, deputy collector of Hearth Money, 95.
 Shephard, John, of Bathampton, 174, 189; Richard, of Worle, 47, 48.
 Sheppard, Bartholomew, of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, 124; John, 68; Thomas, 72.
 Sherry, John, 117, 121.
 Sherstone, John, 8.
 Sherwin, Richard, 89.
 Shipway, —, under-keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet, 4.
 Shole, John, of Ashcot, 65, 78.
 Shore, Thomas, 98.
 Short, William, of Shepton Mallet, 70; —, 35.
 Shurt, William, of Kilve, 170.
 Shute, James, of Dunster, 20.
 Silcock (Silcox), Richard, 106, 109.
 Silvester, John, 99, 105.
 Singer, Edward, of Compton Dando, 143.
 Single, Edward, overseer of Donyatt, 11.
 Singleton, William, 32.
 Skinner, John, of Seavington Abbots, 28.
 Slade, Richard, of Blackford, 93.
 Slape, John, of Ilchester, 125.
 Sledge, John, 58, 77.
 Slocock, Amos, overseer of Thorn St. Margaret, 35, 36.
 Slocombe, David, 15.
 Smale, Ann, 144; Mary, of Lydeard St. Laurence, 130.
 Sminney, Bartholomew, clerk, 25.

- Smith (Smyth), Edmund, 132; Sir Hugh, J.P., 24, 32, 35, 39, 46, 49, 75, 77, 88, 89, 94, 98, 143, 152, 155, 157, 165, 171, 172, 192, 193, 198, 201, 207; Robert, 19; Susanna, 203; Thomas, 129; Thomas, of Chard, 155; William, keeper of the gaol at Ilchester, 6, 48; William, of Chard, 174; Mr., of Frome, 12; —, 146.
- Snow, Nicholas, 91.
- Solwood, Clement, of Chard, 10.
- Sommers, Abraham, of Othery, 65.
- Soper, Francis, overseer of Dinnington, 80.
- Speke, William, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 7.
- Spicer, Thomas, 73.
- Spragg, John, of Winsham, 28.
- Springer, Richard, and Grace, his wife, 100.
- Springuish (Pringuish, Springlidge), Millard, of Wells, 221.
- Spurrell, William, of Bishop's Lydeard, 148.
- Sputt, Anthony, of Norton under Hamdon, 142.
- Squire, Henry, 8; Isaac, 155; Joan, 8.
- Stacy (Stacey), Charity, of Dinnington, 44, 80; Henry, 2; Susanna, 81; Thomas, of Trent, 158.
- Staddon, Agnes, of Shepton Beauchamp, 82; William, churchwarden of Milverton, 64.
- Stagg, Hugh, of Pilton, 3.
- Standerwick, Richard, of Buckland St. Mary, 97, 98, 102, 106.
- Standfesse, John, junior, of Glastonbury, 182.
- Stannard, John, 80.
- Staple, Margaret, of Stoke St. Gregory, 49; Matthew, 144.
- Starre, Richard, of Curry Rivell, 27.
- Stawell, George, J.P., 8, 16; George, lord of Aller Manor, 28; Col. George, 42; Ralph, J.P., 142 *bis*, 148, 152, 154, 165, 168 *bis*, 192, 193, 194, 197, 198, 205, 216; Ralph, Commissioner of Sewers, 184; Ralph, lord of fee in Priestleigh, 95.
- Stedman, George, of Stratton, treasurer for the maimed soldiers, 7, 14, 21, 26.
- Steele (Still), Robert, 41.
- Stephens, Joan, 168; John, 68, 147; John, of Milborne Port, 9; John, of North Curry, 68; Richard, of Langford Budville, 153.
- Stevens, Robert, 63.
- Stivard, Edward, of Locking, constable of Winterstoke Hundred, 97.
- Stocker, John, senior, overseer of Ilminster, 107.
- Stoddon, Matthew, of Stogursey, 96.
- Stone, Catherine, 221; George, 70; John, highway surveyor of Cannington, 106; Maximilian, of East Lydford, 62, 104; Peter, of Ilchester, 195, 196; Robert, 20, 54; Thomas, overseer of Milverton, 64; William, of Chipstable, 70.
- Stooke, Thomas, bailiff of the Hundred of Kingsbury West, 121.
- Stovard (Stovord), John, of Dinnington, 44; John, of Misterton, 44.
- Stowell, John, and Agnes, his wife, 180.
- Strachey (Strechey), John, J.P., 165, 166.
- Straddock, Elizabeth, 109.
- Stradlinge, Richard, 64.
- Strange, Christopher, of Milverton, 47.
- Streate, William, of Over Stowey, 52.
- Strechey. *See* Strachey.
- Strode (Stroud, Stroude, Strowde), Edward, J.P., 187 *bis*, 192, 200, 207, 210; Francis, 183; John, 24; John, lord of Drayton Westover Manor, 23, 31; John, of West Lydford, 148, 149; Sir John, J.P. for Dorset, 87; Jonathan, 207; Justine, 183; Thomas, of Dowlish, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 7, 26; Thomas of Yeovil, 178; William, 10, 198; William, J.P., 192; William, high sheriff, 127.
- Sully *als.* Dyer, John, 109, 113.
- Sutton, Simon, of Priestleigh, 94, 95.
- Swanton, William, J.P. for Wilts, 113.

Sweeting (Sweetinge), Giles, 163 ;
John, of Staplegrave, 16 ; Lewis,
17, 31 ; Thomas, of Bishop's
Lydeard, 214.
Swetnam, Nicholas, 2 ; Robert, of
Horsington, 186.
Symes, Maud, 102 ; Solomon, of
Ashcot, 79 ; William, of Poundis-
ford, treasurer of the hospitals of
the Western Division, 84.
Symonds, Roger, of Taunton St.
James, 195.
Symons, Richard, of Churchill, con-
stable of Winterstoke Hundred, 62,
122.
Synne, William, Magdalen, wife of, 82,
87.

T.

Tachell, John, of Kingsbury East,
201.
Tanner, Henry, of Taunton, 117.
Tarr (Torr), Christopher, of Chip-
stable, 183, 184, 189.
Taylor, Elizabeth, 68 ; John, 83, 89.
Templeman, Nicholas, of West Chin-
nock, 148.
Thomas, Buttolph, 183 ; Edward,
183 ; James, 154 ; John, 118, 122 ;
John, of Congresbury or Blagdon,
118, 122 ; John, of West Buckland,
21, 38 ; Nicholas, of Portbury, 78.
Thorne, Richard, of South Cadbury,
174.
Thruston, Edward, 15.
Titefoote (Tytefoote), Joan, of Stoke
St. Gregory, 101, 108, 202.
Tolman, Philip, of Stocklinch, 40.
Toogood, Anne, 80 ; Jonathan, of
Henstridge, 80.
Toots, Thomas, 54.
Torr. *See* Tarr.
Torry, John, of West Monkton, 169.
Tovey, Robert, 158.
Towell, Thomas, 201.
Towills, John, and Agnes, his
mother, of Treborough, 25 ;
Thomas, 23, 34, 50, 187.
Townsend (Townesend), Elizabeth, of
Clutton, 212 ; James, of West
Pennard, 79.
Travers, Thomas, 177.
Treasure, John, of Glaston, 208 ;
Richard, 188.
Treherne, William, of Frome Sel-
wood, 209, 219.
Trevelyan (Trevillian, Trevillyan,
Trevylian), Sir George, J.P., 8, 19,
46, 66, 82, 87, 101, 105 ; Sir George,
sheriff of Somerset, 32.
Trott, Frances, 188 ; Henry of
Forton, and Anne, his wife, 19.
Trowe, —, 177.
Trowey, William, of Ashbrittle, 17,
22.
Tucker, Ann, of Chelton, 145 ;
Francis, 195 ; James, of Charlton
in Downton, treasurer of the
hospitals of the Eastern Division,
220 ; Robert, of Bishops Lydeard,
176 ; Susanna, of Spaxton, 195.
Tudball, William, 170.
Turbervill (Turberville, Turberville),
John, J.P., 12, 17, 21, 25, 26, 27,
32, 34, 37, 43, 47, 51, 66, 68, 69,
108, 111, 119, 120, 126, 130, 136,
137, 148, 156, 160, 163, 167, 169,
170, 174, 176, 178, 180, 181, 183
bis, 184, 185, 187, 188, 189, 194 *bis*,
195, 196, 201 *bis*, 202, 204, 205,
206, 209, 214, 216, 219, 222.
Turner, Mary, of Buckland St. Mary,
152 ; William, 21.
Tuxewell, David, of Cannington, and
David, his son, 197.
Twitt, John, of Nailsea, 80.
Twose, Arthur, overseer of North
Curry, 81.
Tylee, John, 79 ; Simon, 79.
Tyler, Jonathan, of High Littleton,
89 ; William, of Hinton, 74.
Tylly, Andrew, of Babcary, 77.
Tymewell, Stephen, of Taunton,
75.
Tynt (Tint), Sir Halswell, J.P., 139,
153, 165, 206, 221, 224 ; Sir Hals-
well, sheriff of Somerset, 211 ;
Hugh, J.P., 201 ; John, J.P., 4, 24,
27, 35, 48, 53, 154.

U.

- Ulfrye, Thomas, and Emblyn, his wife, 117.
 Upton (Upon), George, 35; George, of Fitzhead, 153; the same, treasurer of the hospitals of the Western Division, 199, 220; Henry, 193.

V.

- Vallacott, John, 125, 161, 167.
 Vallis, Elizabeth, of South Brewham, 182.
 Vaughan, Benjamin, minister of Charlinch, 197; Francis, J.P., 4, 27, 75, 88, 94, 96, 102, 123, 153, 162, 201, 207, 213, 218, 223; Sir John, Judge of Assize, 111; William, 56; —, 204.
 Veazy, James, 19.
 Venn (Ven, Venne), Anne, 47, 50, 51, 58, 59; Richard, of Cannington, 58; Roger, of Cannington, 47.
 Vernecombe, John, 108.
 Vicary *als.* Gaige, John, 178.
 Vile, Joseph, and Mary, his wife, 152.
 Vilven, Thomas, 183.
 Vincent, Katherine, 65, 71.
 Viner, Benjamin, 189.
 Vyneinge, George, of Wincanton, constable of Wincanton borough, 131.

W.

- Wade, Thomas, overseer of Milverton, 64.
 Wagge, Elizabeth, of Baltonsborough, 182.
 Wake, Thomas, 174.
 Wakeford, Henry, of Corton Dinham, 175.
 Waldegrave, Sir Charles, lord of fee in East Lydford, 104.
 Wall, Edmund, overseer of Wedmore, 207; Edward, 139; George, 218; John, of Shapwick, 8.

- Wallop, Sir Henry, 66.
 Walrond (Waldron, Wallrond, Woldron), Henry, J.P., 7, 10, 16 *bis*, 26, 27, 43, 44 *bis*, 63, 65, 84, 91, 100, 101, 103, 107, 108 *bis*, 110, 111, 112, 117, 118, 122, 127, 130, 131, 136, 138 *bis*, 139 *bis*, 142, 143, 144, 145, 149, 150, 152, 154, 155, 156, 157, 179, 180, 189, 192, 199, 201, 202, 203, 205, 206, 207, 214, 218; Henry, Commissioner of Sewers, 184; Hugh, of Somerton, 159.
 Walter, Alice, 67; Henry, of Brewham, and Jane, his wife, 9; Humphrey, of South Brewham, 213; John, 213; Richard, of South Brewham, 174; Thomas, 67 *bis*, 68, 73, 76.
 Warr (Warre), Edward, of Cheddon, 3; Sir Francis, lord of West Monkton manor, 215; Sir John, J.P., 18, 32, 71; Thomas, 161; Thomas, J.P., 122, 127, 131, 136 *bis*, 139, 142, 143, 144, 148, 149, 150, 154, 155, 157 *bis*, 158, 165, 168 *bis*, 170, 173, 174, 185, 187, 192, 198, 199, 200, 203, 205 *bis*, 206, 207, 212, 214 *bis*, 218, 220, 222, 223 *bis*; Thomas, Commissioner of Sewers, 184; Lady, 206.
 Warren, Elizabeth, 180; Henry, 108; Jane, 108; Naboth, of Wambrook, 211; Robert, 180.
 Washer, Michael, of Oake, 219.
 Wastfeild, Robert, of Brislington, tithingman in Brislington, 144.
 Wathell, Joan, of Winscombe, 62; Nicholas, 62, 68.
 Watherall, John, of Drayton, 117.
 Watts (Wattes), Eleanor, 139; Philip, churchwarden of Pawlett, 139; Philip and Edward, lords of Greinton manor, 23.
 Weare, Edward, 97, 98, 102, 106, 107; William, 2.
 Weatham (or Weltham), John, of Taunton, 21, 34.
 Webb, John, 98.

- Webber, David, 138; Mary, 138, 159; Nicholas, of Clatworthy, 119; William, constable of Canington Hundred, 151.
- Weech, George, 72.
- Weecke, Nicholas, 56 *bis*.
- Weely, Joan, of Sampford Peverel, 118.
- Welch, John, 158.
- Wellman, Thomas, 144.
- Wempy, William, constable of Kilmersdon Hundred, 27.
- Wescombe, George, tithingman of Milverton, 34.
- West, Joan, of Spaxton, 167; Richard, 109.
- Westcombe, John, 91, 93.
- Weye, Mary, of Clatworthy, 119.
- Whelliar *als*. Copp, Marmaduke, of Fivehead, and Mary, his wife, 131.
- Whellier (Whellyer), William, 111.
- Whiple, Henry, of Lydeard St. Laurence, 182.
- Whitbourne, Thomas, of Croscombe, Nonconformist minister, 3.
- Whitconell (or Whitenell), Anne, 36, 39; John, 39.
- White, Francis, of Stoke Trister, 2; John, of Yeovil, 174; Mary, of Nunney, 64; Robert, and Mary, his wife, 206, 214, 216; Walter, 66; William, of Bishops Lydeard, 94.
- Whitehead, John, 113; Thomas, and Frances, his wife, 221.
- Whiteinge (Whitinge), Arthur, 94; Hercules, keeper of the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet, 2, 52, 83, 93, 94.
- Whittchurch, William, the elder, of Frome Selwood, treasurer of the hospitals of the Eastern Division, 173, 199, 204.
- Wickham, Thomas, of Hinton, 129; William, of Fiddington, 193.
- Wilcox (Wilcocks), Frances, *als*. Andrewes, of Chewton Mendip, 25, 49, 51; Francis, 49; Thomas, of Stoke Lane, 25, 27; William, of Kilmersdon, 90.
- Wilkins, Christian, 117; Christopher, of Wiveliscombe, 47; Deborah, of Beckington, 215; Joan, of Lyng, 64; William, 117, 123.
- Williams, David, of Portbury, 78; Jane, 140; John, of Dorchester, deputy-collector of Hearth Money, 95; Mr., steward of Charlton Horethorne Hundred, 131.
- Williamson, George, 32.
- Willis, Anne, 87, 100; Sarah, 2.
- Willoughby, John, J.P. for Devon, 149; William, J.P. for Wilts, 41.
- Wills, Thomas, 177.
- Willton, Philip, of Batcombe, 76.
- Willy, Thomas, of Otterford, 42.
- Wiltshire (Wilsheere, Wilsheir, Wilsheire, Wiltshire), Henry, of Bath, 215; Jasper, 107; Mark, 107, 110, 115; Thomas, 157.
- Windham. *See* Wyndham.
- Winter, George, 149; John, constable of Kingsbury West Hundred, 166.
- Wise, Abraham, 209, 219; John, 219.
- Withers, William, constable of the hundred of Glaston Twelve Hides, 151.
- Withey. *See* Wythe.
- Wood, Grace, 129; James, 112; Mary, of Fitzhead, 112.
- Woodhouse, Jasper, of Bradford, 102.
- Woodland, Robert, of Charlton Horethorne, 110 *bis*.
- Woodwall, Samuel, constable of Congresbury tithing, 4.
- Woollacott, Robert, 71, 91, 93.
- Wooler, James, of Shepton Montague or Sutton Montague, 159, 174.
- Woolley, Thomas, 96.
- Worledge, Stephen, of Yarlinton, 191.
- Wornell, Cuthbert, 65; Thomas, 45.
- Wrentmore, Joan, of Bishop's Lydeard, 176.
- Wyatt, Henry, lord of the manor of Woolley, 80; William, of Buckland St. Mary, 152.
- Wyndham (Windham), Francis, J.P., 60, 81, 84, 127, 131, 132; Sir Francis, J.P., 158, 200, 208; Hugh

-
- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>serjeant-at-law, lord of Stoke Trister manor, 16; Sir Hugh, J.P., 101, 108, 130; Thomas, J.P., 216, 219, 221; Sir William, J.P., 8, 25, 36, 51 <i>bis</i>, 66, 71, 87, 91, 101, 105, 108, 109, 156, 161, 162 <i>bis</i>, 163, 170, 184, 188, 193, 202, 209, 210, 215.</p> <p>Wythe (Withey, Wythie, Wythy), Edith, 185; John, 59; John, of Glastonbury, 59, 64.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Y.</p> <p>Younge, Barsheba, of Langford Budville, 217, 219; Charles, of Langford Budville, 153; John, 2; John, of Driddy, 182.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Z.</p> <p>Zugg, Thomas, of Trent, 131.</p> |
|--|---|

INDEX OF SUBJECTS.

A.

Acts of Parliament referred to, 35, 75, 77, 88, 102, 104, 109, 111, 119, 127, 128, 130, 140, 141, 169, 177, 197, 218.

Aid, Royal, Commissioners for assessing, 45.

Alehouses, keepers of, 7; suppression of, 9, 108, 158, 205, 208; not to be kept by bailiffs, 136; restriction on issue of licences to keep, 150.

Almshouses, 31, 103, 142.

Apprentices, 5, 19, 21, 117, 147, 157, 178, 180, 183, 193; complaints about, 29, 44; discharged, 7, 15, 16, 21, 35, 48, 50, 54, 65, 68, 69, 74, 81, 86, 90, 100, 102, 117, 121, 125, 144, 148, 153, 162, 163, 169, 170, 174, 180, 181, 193, 197, 207, 209, 212, 219; discharge of, revoked, 106; discharge from, refused, 126; orders for the placing of, 50, 54, 86, 105, 112, 153, 163, 179, 193, 194; disputes as to age of, 97, 98, 161, 164; rate for binding children as, 193; refusals to accept and maintain, 33, 35, 41, 69, 99, 133, 153, 161, 167, 201, 217; to be received back by their masters, 82, 98, 138.

Assault on a J.P., punishment for, 217.

Assize, Judges of, cases referred for opinion of, 67, 82.

Assizes, the, estreats for non-appearance at, 58, 77.

B.

Bailiffs, abuses by, 121, 125, 135, 136, 177.

Barber-surgeons, 14, 177.

Barley, restrictions on the malting of, 49, 50.

Bastards, maintenance of, 2, 5, 6 *ter*, 27, 28, 41, 43, 44, 46, 49, 51, 52, 58, 64, 65, 70, 71, 72, 80, 84, 88, 89, 90, 91, 94, 95, 98, 100, 102, 106, 108, 109, 110, 112, 119, 120, 121, 127, 129, 130, 132, 137, 139, 141, 142, 144, 145, 148, 151, 152, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 167, 169, 170, 172, 175, 176, 179, 183, 184, 185, 189, 194, 195, 199, 201, 202, 209, 211, 212, 215, 216, 218, 219, 221, 224; settlement of, 22, 27, 90, 93, 94, 140, 144, 163, 165, 188, 210.

Bastardy, punishment of women for, 42, 69, 133, 196, 199, 203, 217.

Beggars, 12.

Blasphemy, a vendor of, 128.

Bridges, presentments of Grand Jury about, 54, 55, 92; orders about repair of, 3, 21, 24, 32, 71, 72, 92, 99, 105, 124, 126, 128, 165; questions about contributions for repair of, fines for non-repair of, and liability for repair of, 7, 8, 14, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34, 39, 53, 63, 66, 67, 68, 71, 74, 75, 85, 86, 89, 101, 102, 103, 113, 114, 122, 124, 135, 136, 159, 160, 192, 196, 205, 206, 211, 221, 222.

C.

Cattle, buying, selling, and breeding of, 218; dead of the rot, rules for burying, 150; Irish, illicit importation of, 130, 141, 197.
 Causeys, order for repair of, 128.
 Chancery, 59.
 Church, absence from, punishment for, 56, 57, 78.
 Church rates, 18, 200.
 Churchwardens, complaints against, 63, 74, 81, 91, 188, 206.
 Clipping money, 57.
 Clothiers, frauds by, 55.
 Cloths, dyeing, pressing and stretching of, 218.
 Common of pasture, 10.
 Constables, complaints about elections of, 36, 131; discharge of, 144; disputes about service as, 4, 5, 21, 38, 42, 96, 97, 98, 120, 192; misbehaviour by, 27, 32, 131, 132, 141, 151, 191; persons to be sworn as, 42, 52, 62, 109, 120, 126, 127, 131, 144, 151, 166, 190, 214.
 Conventicles, 46, 55, 101, 127, 136, 145, 146, 173, 191.
 Copyholders, 23, 30, 31.
 Corn, restrictions on purchase of, 147.
 Cottages. *See* Houses and cottages.
 Council, Order in, referred to, 45.
 County Court, the, estreats out of, 60, 113.
 Courts Leet, 4, 5, 95, 96, 120, 151.
 Cursitor, office of, 96.

D.

Deodand, 76.
 Detention of goods and lands, 9, 59, 73, 119, 155, 204, 221; of moneys, 56, 83, 89, 91, 104, 120, 139, 200; of wages, 4, 80, 157, 159, 210; of writings and evidences, 90.
 Dissenters, meeting house of, 202.

E.

Ecclesiastical Court, 138.
 Estreat book, the, 145.
 Eviction, complaint of, 28.
 Exchequer, Court of, 20, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 57, 58, 72, 94, 145, 149, 159, 210, 211.
 Excise Officers, 63, 122, 132; complaints against, and disputes with, 7, 17, 31, 38, 42.
 Excommunication, 138.

F.

Flax, watering of, presentment about, 42.

G.

Game, preservation of, 178.
 Gaol, the county, at Ilchester, 1, 6, 15, 16, 32, 34, 37, 38, 41, 48, 51, 83, 90, 103, 114, 173, 196, 207.
 Grand Jury, the, presentments by, 42, 54, 86, 92, 202, 224; as to rates of wages, 13, 43, 61, 84, 99, 116, 134, 173, 202, 224.
 Greenwax, Collector of the, 6, 15, 18, 20, 34, 57, 58, 72, 76, 149, 160.

H.

Hearth Money, 9, 73; instructions for collection of, 29, 30; list of collectors of, 95.
 Highways, narrowing of, 166, 172; office of surveyor of, 169; orders for raising money for repair of, 88, 104, 105, 110, 119, 128, 130, 133, 139; presentments by Grand Jury about, 54, 55; questions relating to contributions for repair of, fines for non-repair of, and liability for repair of, 6, 7, 15, 18, 19, 93, 106, 124, 155, 178, 187, 207, 214, 220; stoppage of, 79; water-courses, ditches, &c., adjoining, to be cleaned, 146, 186.

Hospitals, questions relating to the payment of contributions towards, 1, 7, 9, 27, 39, 37, 40, 94, 155; treasurers of, accounts of, 7; treasurers of, orders to, 1, 6, 26, 34, 48, 113, 120, 149, 173.

Hospitals of the Eastern Division of the county, treasurers of, accounts of, 13, 43, 61, 85, 116, 135, 176, 204, 225; appointments of, 7, 26, 43, 61, 84, 104, 132, 158, 164, 173, 199, 220; orders to, 3, 4, 8, 14, 20, 37, 40, 45, 52, 58, 83, 90, 92, 103, 114, 122, 124, 126, 128, 135, 137, 142, 156, 171, 196, 212, 217, 222.

Hospitals of the Western Division of the county, treasurers of, accounts of, 61, 85, 135, 159, 176; appointments of, 7, 26, 43, 61, 84, 104, 132, 158, 173, 199, 220; orders to, 8, 14, 48, 52, 57, 58, 69, 72, 78, 83, 90, 96, 114, 122, 124, 126, 135, 142, 156, 190, 199, 205, 207, 209, 218, 223.

Hospitals named:—

Curry Rivell, 142, 149, 168, 171, 190.

Langport, 40, 44, 52, 57, 69, 78, 128, 190.

West Monkton, 206, 215.

Houses and cottages, disputes between parishes as to the situation of, 158, 162, 223; erection of, contrary to statute, 23, 26, 34, 175; for the poor, 115, 116, 123, 190; licences to build, on waste lands, 2, 4, 15, 16, 23, 28, 36, 53, 62, 89, 94, 95, 104, 133, 174, 197, 198.

Houses of Correction, 2, 22, 25, 26, 27, 82, 100; at Ilchester, 1, 8, 54, 114; at Shepton Mallet, 2, 4, 9, 16, 45, 52, 54, 83, 93, 94, 128, 137, 148, 157, 171; at Taunton, 44, 74, 78, 83, 90, 96, 112, 114, 122, 126, 153, 156, 157, 164, 174, 196, 204, 205, 209.

Hue and cry, 149.

Husbands and wives, disputes between, 12, 18, 19, 37, 46, 51, 107, 108, 118, 131, 157.

I.

Impropriations, rating of, 7.

Inclosed lands, liable to church and poor rates, 200.

Inclosure of a wood, dispute about, 10.

Infants, destitute, 2, 20, 23, 39, 47, 49, 51, 59, 63, 76, 85, 86, 119, 161.

Inns, named, 89, 223; not to be kept by bailiffs, 136.

Interest money and invisible estate, not rateable for poor rate, 12.

J.

Jurors, rules for the empanelling of, 146, 186, 195.

Jury service, exemptions from, 61, 62, 127, 146.

K.

King's Bench, appeals to, 91, 129; and Marshalsey, exhibition money for poor prisoners of, 58, 124.

King's Evil, the, 153.

L.

Lunatics, idiots, distracted persons, &c., 40, 74, 112, 171.

M.

Maimed soldiers, awards of pensions to, to be suspended, 85; contributions towards, reduced by a third, 176; gratuities awarded to, 114, 128, 129, 140, 174, 177, 189, 191, 198, 207, 208; pensions awarded to, 3, 8, 19, 22, 25, 26, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 47, 52, 59, 60, 65, 66, 70, 78, 79, 166, 170; questions relating to payment of contributions towards, 1, 7, 9, 18, 27, 36, 37, 171, 176; relief of, very burdensome to the county, 46.

Maimed soldiers, treasurers and deputy treasurers of, accounts of, 7, 66, 135, 159, 176, 197, 225; appointments of, 7, 21, 26, 43, 61, 84, 90, 104, 133, 159, 186, 198, 220; orders to, 5, 14, 41, 53, 65, 97, 120, 140, 145, 148, 155, 159, 161, 169, 174, 177, 189, 191, 198, 204, 207.

Malting, restrictions on, 49, 50.

Market, order for early closing of a, 134.

Ministers, 1, 171; to be rated on their impropriations and tithes, 7; nonconformist, 3.

N.

Nuisance, proceedings in regard to a, 147, 160, 166, 172.

O.

Oaths, adjournments of Quarter Sessions to further the taking of, 140, 141, 177, 215; certificates of the taking of, 3, 132.

Overseers of the poor, 51, 156, 160, 177; complaints against, 53, 63, 74, 80, 81, 83, 91, 179, 188, 199, 206; to be appointed in a liberty 35, 75.

P.

Parliament, members of, instruction to, 73.

Paupers, settlements and removals of, 1, 2, 7, 11, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 30, 36, 39, 40, 41, 44, 47, 49, 50, 56, 58, 62, 63, 64, 67, 68, 69, 71, 74, 75, 76, 79, 80, 81, 82, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96, 97, 98, 100, 103, 105, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 129, 130, 133, 138, 139, 140, 143, 144, 147, 149, 150,

152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 175, 178, 179, 180, 181, 188, 189, 192, 193, 194, 198, 202, 203, 205, 206, 208, 209, 210, 212, 213, 215, 216, 218, 221, 222.

Pensioners (maimed soldiers), inspection of, ordered, 45, 47, 60, 70, 79; to appear in person for payment, 114; to be reported on by their parish officers, 185; to be stated on oath to be alive before payment of pension, 220.

Pensions and gratuities, awarded to maimed soldiers, 3, 8, 19, 22, 25, 26, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 47, 52, 59, 60, 65, 66, 70, 78, 79, 83, 97, 114, 128, 129, 140, 166, 170, 174, 177, 189, 191, 198, 207, 208.

Pensions, awards of, suspended for a time, 85, 220.

Petty Sessions, 144.

Pillory, the, 217.

Plague, the, at Bedminster, 10, 24; infection of, spread by beggars, 12.

Poor rates, complaints and disputes about payments of and assessments for, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 28, 29, 33, 39, 115, 134, 154, 163, 166, 184, 192, 204, 205, 206, 214, 222, 223, 224; confirmations of, 6, 9, 198; enclosed lands liable to payment of, 200; fixing of, 11, 192; orders for making, 35, 75.

Prison and ward in Taunton Castle, settlement of the fees and future government of, 111.

Prisoners, poor, Act for relief and release of, 109, 111; exhibition money for, 58, 124.

Privy Sessions, 11, 133, 150.

Q.

Quarter Sessions, adjournments of, for the taking of Oaths of Allegiance, &c., 140, 141, 177, 215; orders as to procedure at, 38, 137, 184, 211; protest against removal of, to Bath, 73.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>R.</p> <p>Rains, excessive, 150.</p> <p>Rates, complaints and disputes about, 8, 19, 37, 38, 45, 151, 187, 188; for relief of sufferers from the plague, 10, 24; for maintenance of an almshouse, 31; for maintenance of a daughter and her children, 86; for binding poor children apprentices, 193; in connection with repair of highways, 6, 7, 15, 18, 19, 124, 155, 178; in connection with legal costs and penalties, 23, 58, 76; in connection with repair of bridges, 24, 28, 67, 71, 72, 99, 136.</p> <p>Record House at Wells, repair of, 113.</p> <p>Recusants, seizure of estates of, 181, 182, 185, 186.</p> <p>Right of way, stopped, 16.</p> <p>S.</p> <p>Scurrilous or scandalous language, punishments for, 16, 148, 191.</p> <p>Servants, freer movement of, allowed, 190, 191.</p> <p>Sewers, Commissioners of, 183, 184.</p> | <p>Sheriff's deputy, unauthorised action by, 77.</p> <p>"Steaming," a, preferred to a bridge, 161.</p> <p>T.</p> <p>Tithes, rating of, 7.</p> <p>Tithingmen, disputes as to service as, 2, 8, 22, 24, 34, 95, 96, 143.</p> <p>V.</p> <p>Victuals, complaints of scarcity of, 55, 77.</p> <p>W.</p> <p>Wages, disputes about, 4, 80, 157, 159, 210; presentments of Grand Juries as to rates of, 13, 43, 61, 84, 99, 116, 134, 159, 173, 202, 224.</p> <p>Waste lands, licences to build cottages on, 2, 4, 15, 16, 23, 28, 36, 53, 62, 89, 94, 95, 104, 133, 174, 197, 198.</p> <p>Watercourses, obstruction of, 19, 92.</p> <p>Wives, deserted, 25, 48, 82, 83, 131, 157, 191, 208, 216.</p> |
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